

From: Symmes, Brian
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Subject: Morning Clips - Monday, August 12, 2013

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Greenville News: Haley picks Greenville for re-election announcement

Governor to make statement on re-election bid at rally

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130812/NEWS/308120014/Haley-picks-Greenville-re-election-announcement>

Rudolph Bell

Gov. Nikki Haley will announce that she'll seek a second term during a rally Aug. 26 at the BI-LO Center in downtown Greenville, her spokesman said. Scheduled to appear with Haley at the 4 p.m. rally will be three other Republican governors and potential presidential candidates in 2016 — Rick Perry of Texas, Bobby Jindal of Louisiana and Scott Walker of Wisconsin. The emcee will be U.S. Sen. Tim Scott whom Haley appointed to replace former U.S. Sen. Jim DeMint after he resigned to lead the Heritage Foundation.

Note: The Haley campaign later “decided to expand our events to include a grass-roots rally,” said Haley adviser Rob Godfrey. “And once we did that, Gov. Haley decided that we might as well make it official — she’s running for re-election.”

Note: Godfrey said the Haley rally will take place on the plaza at the BI-LO Center next to the Church Street garage.

Greenville News: Small reactor research not likely to succeed

http://nl.newsbank.com/nl-search/we/Archives?p_action=doc&p_docid=1482212AD7FEC2E0&p_docnum=1

Eric Connor

The millions of dollars spent by taxpayers to help fund the development of small-scale nuclear reactors — including two projects at South Carolina’s Savannah River Site — is a “poor bet” that is unlikely to succeed, according to a new economic study released Thursday by an environmental watchdog group. The development of “small modular reactors” — which are assembled off-site and shipped to locations in need of energy production — will require \$90 billion worth of demand to become profitable and tens of millions more in government investment or outside investors such as China, the report from the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research said.

Note: The other project competing at SRS is Florida-based Holtec International, who last summer joined in a press conference with Gov. Nikki Haley to promote its project as a job producer.

Aiken Standard: New law protects police dogs in biting cases

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130812/AIK0101/130819874/1007/AIK0101/new-law-protects-police-dogs-in-biting-cases>

Teddy Kulmala

A new state law gives police K-9 units more legal protection if they bite a suspect, even in Aiken County, where police dogs are not trained to bite.

Note: Martin's measure, which was signed into law by Gov. Nikki Haley in June, provides an exception for certified police dogs that are on duty and responding to a lawful command or acting according to their training.

Note: “When it came across my desk, it was one of those no-brainers that you're kind of wandering how this wasn't law before,” Haley said at the bill's signing. “... They should be able to go and do whatever they need to do for the security of the canine the safety of the citizens. What we've found is, if they do that, we are covered from a liability standpoint except if canines are part of the team.”

Anderson Independent: Silver Crescent next for Wilkerson

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/aug/11/Silver-Crescent-next-for-Wilkerson/>

Charmaine Smith-Miles

Education, and the importance of learning, is a treasure that has been passed on through at least four

generations of Ruth Wilkerson's family. All 10 of her children have been to college. Ruth, herself, taught school for 40 years. Her mother, a black woman living in America in the 1800s, was college-educated and was one of four teachers in her family. And her grandfather, Peter Smith, was learned and skilled as a blacksmith.

Note: Peggy Rawl, who worked alongside Mrs. Wilkerson at Share Headstart, is among the ones who have helped write to Gov. Nikki Haley and ask that Wilkerson, 103, be honored. Rawl said Wilkerson is largely responsible for her choice in becoming a teacher. Rawl spent 35 years in the classroom.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Times and Democrat: Water key factor in U.S. approach to better world

http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/editorial/water-key-factor-in-u-s-approach-to-better-world/article_e8ed9162-0168-11e3-9a0c-001a4bcf887a.html

Editorial

THE ISSUE: Water for the World Act; OUR OPINION: U.S. priority should be assisting anywhere, everywhere with people having good drinking water. The focus of so many weeks this summer has been water in the form of rain and its impact. This past Monday, our print and online editions focused again on water, only this time the story was drinking water. Specifically, the report was on a private firm sampling water in areas served by the Orangeburg Department of Public Utilities.

Rock Hill Herald: Making college affordable

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/08/11/5105464/making-college-affordable.html>

Editorial

The bipartisan student loan bill signed by President Barack Obama Friday was a reasonable compromise that will offer lower loan rates to 11 million borrowers for the near future. But this should be just the first step in reining in the egregious costs of a college education in this country. The bill was one of the few pieces of legislation on which both Democrats and Republicans could find common ground before leaving Washington on their August break. If they had failed to reach an agreement, interest rates on student loans would automatically have doubled from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Veronica's birth father expected to attend tribal court's emergency hearing as authorities seek arrest

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130811/PC16/130819879/1006/veronica-x2019-s-birth-father-expected-to-attend-tribal-court-x2019-s-emergency-hearing-as-authorities-seek-arrest>

Andrew Knapp

Just as law enforcement officials thought Dusten Brown would surrender Sunday for not turning over his 3-year-old daughter, Veronica, to her adoptive parents, the father left a military base and returned to his home state of Oklahoma. That's where he plans to appear at 10 a.m. this morning for an emergency hearing in Cherokee Nation District Court in Tahlequah, where a judge could claim the authority to decide who should care for the toddler.

Post and Courier: A summer of heavy rain has hit South Carolina farmers hard, and prices could reflect the damage

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130811/PC16/130819869/1006/drown-on-the-farm>

David Slade

Peach trees are drowning in Holly Hill, mildewed squash has been plowed under in Conway, and melons have been ruined on Johns Island. Following two years of drought, South Carolina farmers got something arguably worse this year — far too much rain, with some areas seeing a year's worth by August. "It's been too much water at one time, that's what it is," said Joseph Fields, of Fields Farms on Johns Island. "We lost a lot of stuff — watermelon, cantaloupe, tomatoes." At local farmers' markets brimming with South Carolina peaches, butter beans, heirloom tomatoes and much more, it's hard to tell that anything has gone wrong back on the farm.

Associated Press: SC Air Force Base helps new dads cope with kids

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/08/11/2623846/sc-air-force-base-helps-new-dads.html>

Susanne M. Schafer

New parents have a hard enough time dealing with crying, up-at-all-hours babies. Add to it, being a father in

America's 24/7 military, which requires you to keep odd hours, uncertain schedules and show up in a clean uniform and with a tough-as-nails demeanor. So Air Force officials and several dads in uniform at Shaw Air Force Base are trying to help other fathers with a class that teaches them about the mysteries of mixing babies, spouses and life in a uniform. It's dubbed "Dads 101" at the South Carolina base.

Associated Press: SC prisons agency hosting conference on gangs

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/08/12/2624922/sc-prisons-agency-hosting-conference.html>

Officers from across South Carolina are gathering for a meeting about how to address gang-related issues. The South Carolina Department of Corrections' gang conference starts Monday on the Harbison campus of Midlands Technical College in Irmo. Organizers say the two-day gathering focuses on the effectiveness of identifying violent street gangs and threats and contraband inside prison.

Associated Press: US Sen. Tim Scott visits 8 counties in 2 days

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/08/12/3640117/us-sen-tim-scott-visits-8-counties.html#storylink=cpy>

U.S. Sen. Tim Scott is traveling through the Lowcountry and the Pee Dee this week, visiting eight counties in two days. Scott will attend a civic club meeting in Moncks Corner, meet with business leaders in Georgetown, greet constituents in Kingstree and visit a Coca-Cola bottling plant in Bishopville on Monday. On Tuesday he stops by the Honda plant in Timmonsville, meets with constituents in Bennettsville and then visits industrial plants in Cheraw and Alcolu.

Times and Democrat: Cotton farmers have looming deadline on refund recovery

http://thetandd.com/news/local/cotton-farmers-have-looming-deadline-on-refund-recovery/article_fd2e3a6c-016a-11e3-8069-001a4bcf887a.html

The deadline for cotton farmers to recover a refund for crop losses and technology fees for certain varieties is Aug. 15. The replant program for cotton is 50 percent off of the cost of replanted seed for Deltapine cotton seed. In this case, Monsanto will give a 100 percent refund on the original cotton technology fee. The deadline for Dekalb/Asgrow/Deltapine replant claims is Aug. 15 while the deadline for cotton crop loss claims is Aug. 16. For several years, Monsanto has offered growers a Cotton Crop Loss/Destruct Refund to encourage them to use varieties with special traits.

Local News:

The State: Mayor in talks to bring baseball team to city

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/11/2914467/mayor-in-talks-to-bring-baseball.html#storylink=cpy>

Jeff Wilkinson

Mayor Steve Benjamin says he is in serious talks with a minor league baseball owner to bring a team to Columbia and could present a stadium funding proposal to City Council as early as this fall. Benjamin told The State he plans to visit later this month a stadium that the undisclosed owner has built in the Midwest. It and its public/private funding model could serve as a template for a new stadium here, he said. The stadium would be the centerpiece of the redeveloped 181-acre State Hospital campus on Bull Street, considered to be the most significant land deal in the city's modern history. Bull Street developer Bob Hughes of Greenville has said a stadium is a key to the development's success.

Post and Courier: Although scores improve, Charleston County School District doesn't make enough progress to hit annual goals in its Vision 2016 plan

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130811/PC16/130819870/1389/charleston-county-schools-miss-most-annual-targets-for-vision-2016>

Diette Courrage Casey

Vinyl and digital billboards posted across Charleston County last year touted the start of Vision 2016, the school district's five-year plan to improve all students' achievement. The plan spelled out specific goals for third- and eighth-graders in English and math, as well as high school students' graduation rates. The school board since has added fifth and seventh grades, end-of-course exams and its report-card rating to those goals.

Aiken Standard: Breakdown: County budget structured to avoid negative impact on taxpayer

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130812/AIK0101/130819868/1007/AIK0101/breakdown-county-budget-structured-to-avoid-negative-impact-on-taxpayer>

Amy Banton

Aiken County is working with a budget of about \$56 million for this fiscal year. The County approved the 2013-2014 budget in June that is \$4.1 million higher than last year's budget. Council passed the budget without a tax increase. "We've structured it all to avoid a negative impact on the taxpayer, and that's really been our focus," said County Administrator Clay Killian. This is a look at projected expenditures in the coming months.

Post and Courier: Veteran Charleston County Principal Juanita Middleton returns to lead Charleston Charter School for Math & Science

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130812/PC16/130819871/1006/veteran-charleston-county-principal-juanita-middleton-returns-to-lead-charleston-charter-school-for-math-science>

Diette Courrege Casey

Juanita Middleton has worked in some of Charleston County's lowest-achieving schools, so her latest job will be a new kind of challenge. She is the new interim principal of Charleston Charter School for Math and Science, which has solid test scores and received an "A" in the recent federal ratings.

Post and Courier: South Carolina utility Santee Cooper OK'd \$1.34B deal at illegal meeting, attorney says

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130811/PC16/130819868/1006/santee-cooper-ok-x2019-d-134b-deal-at-illegal-meeting-attorney-says>

John McDermott

Santee Cooper approved the largest loan in its history at an illegal board meeting last week, a First Amendment lawyer said. The state-owned utility OK'd the sale of \$1.34 billion in bonds Thursday at a "special" unscheduled meeting without telling local media outlets 24 hours in advance, as required under the S.C. Freedom of Information Act.

Associated Press: South Carolina State Library hosting food drive

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/12/2914756/south-carolina-state-library-hosting.html#storylink=cpy>

The South Carolina State Library is working this month to help combat the problem of hunger in the state. Starting Monday, people who come to visit the library in Columbia are encouraged to bring nonperishable food items like canned meat, peanut butter and cereal. Personal items like diapers, detergent and plastic bags are also needed. The library is teaming up with The South Carolina Society of Certified Public Managers and Harvest Hope Food Bank. The drive runs for two weeks, until August 23.

Florence Morning News: Carolina Brotherhood reaches out to families of the fallen

http://www.snow.com/news/article_a194abfc-02fd-11e3-b6e5-001a4bcf6878.html

Lindsay S. Buchanan

After her husband Jeff died, Stacy Bowen of Asheville, N.C., was surprised to see a group of men she didn't know at the funeral, but maybe she shouldn't have been. Jeff Bowen was an Asheville firefighter, and among their kind exists a brotherhood that extends beyond city limits or personal connections.

Island Packet: County schools improve procedures for disabled students, but more work needed, state says

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/08/11/2624251/county-schools-improve-procedures.html#storylink=cpy>

Tom The Beaufort County School District has made "great strides" in adhering to procedures for educating disabled students but has more progress to make, according to the S.C. Department of Education. The district was commended for updating its procedures for documenting discipline and training staff members to respond to recurring behavior problems of disabled students. But the changes, which were required of the district as a result of a state-imposed corrective plan, don't go far enough, according to a May 23 letter to the district from Cathy Boshamer, director of the Office of Exceptional Children at the state Department of Education.

Index-Journal: McCormick School Board likes IKE

<http://www.indexjournal.com/main.asp?SectionID=4&SubSectionID=40&ArticleID=20186>

Michelle Laxer

After more than a year of revisions, the McCormick County school district nears approval of a revamped student promotion and retention policy following a board of trustees work session Wednesday night. At the end of the one-hour session, board chairman Jim Lambeth said the board will approve the updated policy, officially known as IKE, in its regular meeting tonight. Directors of elementary and secondary education, Mary Greene Thomasson and Kelly Coxe, walked the board members through the policy and its changes.

National News:

Associated Press: U.S. gas prices drop 8 cents over past two weeks

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130811/AIK0103/130819858/1009/AIK0103/us-gas-prices-drop-8-cents-over-past-two-weeks>

The average U.S. price of a gallon of gasoline has fallen about 8 cents over the past two weeks. The Lundberg Survey of gas prices released on Sunday said the price of a gallon of regular is \$3.60. Midgrade costs an average of \$3.78 a gallon, and premium is \$3.92. Lundberg Survey President Trilby Lundberg said refiners are over-producing gasoline and slashing their wholesale prices to move product.

Associated Press: September crucial month for immigration law-change advocates

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/aug/11/september-crucial-month-for-immigration-law/>

Immigration advocates are swarming the country this month, trying to persuade House Republicans to pass a comprehensive overhaul of immigration laws. It was hard to tell at the town-hall meeting that second-term Republican Rep. Andy Harris held recently in this town northeast of Baltimore.

Brian Symmes

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