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Subject: Morning Clips – Thursday, August 21, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Sun News: Myrtle Beach police ask Summerville residents for help in Memorial Day weekend killings, offer reward

http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/08/20/4423903_myrtle-beach-police-ask-summerville.html?sp=/99/209/&rh=1#storylink=cpy

Maya T. Prabhu

Myrtle Beach police traveled to Summerville on Wednesday to urge anyone with information about the shooting deaths of three people at a motel during Memorial Day weekend to contact them or Crime Stoppers.

Note: Last month, Gov. Nikki Haley visited Atlantic Beach and urged the town council to end the biker festival. In return, she said, the state would work with the town to transform it into a family-friendly destination that tourists from across the nation will visit.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

Associated Press: USC hosts political experts on 2014 fall election

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

Five political science experts and scholars are slated to appear at the University of South Carolina to discuss the upcoming fall elections. The race between incumbent Gov. Nikki Haley and challenger Sen. Vincent Sheheen highlights Thursday's talk from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Capstone House. The event is free and open to the public.

Post and Courier: Sheheen calls for transparency at DSS

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140820/PC1603/140829918>

Cynthia Roldan, Jeremy Borden

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Vincent Sheheen called for more transparency at the Department of Social Services on Wednesday, while citing stories by The Post and Courier that highlighted issues with the state's welfare to work program.

Note: "Only a hopeless liberal like Vince Sheheen would rather keep people on welfare then help them move into the workforce," said Chaney Adams, spokeswoman for Haley's campaign. "This successful program that has added to our state's massive reduction in unemployment in the last four years is great news for South Carolina and bad news for Vince's endless political ambitions."

Note: The governor's spokesman, Doug Mayer, reiterated on Wednesday a similar quote he provided to The Post and Courier on Friday. "Gov. Haley has always believed that the best way to take care of our South Carolina families is to provide more and better opportunities for them to find work in our state - and that is exactly what the welfare to work program has done," said Mayer in a written statement.

Greenville News: Sheheen, Haley argue over job figures

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/08/20/sheheen-haley-argue-job-figures/14369485/>

Tim Smith

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Vincent Sheheen is alleging that Gov. Nikki Haley and the state Department of Social Services are misleading the public in touting the number of people moving from welfare to jobs.

Note: Doug Mayer, a spokesman for Haley, said the governor has always believed that the best way to take care of families is to provide them opportunities for work. "The governor knows that working is one of the keys to the American dream," he said, "and she couldn't be more thrilled that this program has moved over 20,000 South Carolinians from welfare to work."

Associated Press: Sheheen: Haley's welfare-to-work claims misleading

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Y6nxb1EM

Seanna Adcox

Gov. Nikki Haley's Democratic opponent said Wednesday her administration hasn't moved more than 20,000 people from welfare to work as claimed, since many of those people still earn so little, they continue to receive government assistance.

Note: "Gov. Haley has always believed that the best way to take care of our South Carolina families is to provide more and better opportunities for them to find work in our state - and that is exactly what the welfare to work program has done," said Haley spokesman Doug Mayer. "The governor knows that working is one of the keys to the American Dream." He repeated that the program has moved "over 20,000 South Carolinians from welfare to work."

The State: Sheheen: SC Gov. Haley 'lying' about welfare-to-work numbers

http://www.thestate.com/2014/08/20/3631065_sheheen-sc-gov-haley-lying-about.html?sp=/99/132/312/169/&rh=1

Jamie Self

Democratic state Sen. Vincent Sheheen said Wednesday that Republican Gov. Nikki Haley has not – as she has claimed – moved more than 20,000 people “from welfare to work.”

Note: Adams called Sheheen a “hopeless liberal (who) would rather keep people on welfare than help them move into the workforce. This successful program – that has added to our state's massive reduction in unemployment in the last four years – is great news for South Carolina and bad news for Vince's endless political ambitions.”

The State (Video): FIRST ON BUZZ: Sheheen ad says Haley 'hid' hacking from SC taxpayers

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/08/21/3631577/first-on-buzz-sheheen-ad-says.html?sp=/99/132/312/169/>

Jamie Self

Gov. Nikki Haley hid the hacking of 3.6 million South Carolinian's Social Security numbers for two weeks, according to a new campaign ad by her Democratic rival, S.C. Sen. Vincent Sheheen.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

The State: Sooner or later, Harrell SLED report must be made public

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/08/20/3630162/editorial-sooner-or-later-harrell.html>

Editorial

SINCE JANUARY, House Speaker Bobby Harrell has been demanding the release of the SLED investigation into corruption allegations against him. And since January, Attorney General Alan Wilson has refused, citing an ongoing State Grand Jury investigation and a state law that prohibits the release of grand jury material.

Post and Courier: Clarify the Iraq mission

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140821/PC1002/140829915>

Editorial

President Barack Obama's policy of military action to counter the advance of the Islamic State (ISIS or ISIL) in Iraq is gaining public - and international - support. Our allies in Britain, France and even Germany appear increasingly inclined to join, or at least back, that effort.

Post and Courier: Public debate required on RDA

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140821/PC1002/140829916>

Editorial

Charleston County Council today is expected to discuss the dicey situation created by Chairman Teddie Pryor last week when he declared that the county had severed its 19-year relationship with the Charleston Regional Development Alliance. Council members should insist on their right to weigh in on such an important issue.

Post and Courier: Hey, S.C. cowards: Stop beating women

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140821/PC16/140829967>

Frank Wooten

Why do battered women keep living with battering men? Fair question. But don't read a perverse implication of shared responsibility into that leading question. Women trapped in a lifestyle of physical abuse by men

are often financially and/or emotionally dependent on their tormentors.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

McClatchy Washington: Rep. Gowdy says he'll bring prosecutor's focus, fairness to Benghazi probe
<http://www.thestate.com/2014/08/20/3630799/rep-gowdy-says-hell-bring-prosecutors.html#storylink=cpy>
Ali Watkins

But the Greenville, S.C., native has found a springboard to possible Washington stardom _ whether wanted or not _ with his appointment last spring as chairman of a special House of Representatives select panel investigating the Sept. 11, 2012, attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya. The U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, and three other Americans were killed when militants raided the compound.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Earnings, revenue up at South Carolina ports for fiscal '14
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140820/PC05/140829926>

John McDermott

Propelled by a strong finish, the State Ports Authority reported double-digit gains in income and revenue for its last fiscal year as cargo volume gains outpaced the industry average. Operating earnings came in at 20 percent above projections at \$14.3 million, the maritime agency said Wednesday.

Post and Courier: South Carolina makes small gains in ACT college entrance exam scores
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140820/PC16/140829925>

Amanda Kerr

South Carolina public school students continue to make small gains in scores on the ACT college entrance exam, but still fell short of the national average, according to figures released Wednesday. The state's ACT score for public school students saw a 0.1-point gain for an average score of 20.2 on the 36-point scale.

Post and Courier: Support of Common Core wanes nationwide, SC lawmaker not surprised
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140820/PC1603/140829930>

Cynthia Roldan

A lawmaker from one of the first states to back out of Common Core has a message for those who are considering stepping away from the standards: It can be done. Sen. Larry Grooms was among the first state lawmakers who started rattling cages after learning the Common Core standards were adopted in South Carolina in 2010 without undergoing the typical cyclical review.

The State: SC local governments receive one-time money

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/08/20/3631051/sc-local-governments-receive-one.html>

Cassie Cope

Local governments and technical colleges will get \$40 million in one-time money from the state. That money had been contingent on the state finishing its fiscal year that ended June 30 with a large-enough surplus, and it did, S.C. Comptroller General Richard Eckstrom said Wednesday.

Times and Democrat: SCSU group meeting with SACS about accreditation

http://thetandd.com/news/local/scsu-group-meeting-with-sacs-about-accreditation/article_1b7842ba-28e8-11e4-a688-0019bb2963f4.html

Dale Linder Altman

A group of S.C. State officials will go to Atlanta on Friday to discuss the university's accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The seriousness of the issue is leading President Thomas Elzey to take about 18 members of his task force to the meeting, he told trustees on Wednesday.

Rock Hill Herald: Chester, Lancaster hospital patients could be at risk after data breach

http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/08/20/6249313_sc-patients-at-risk-after-data.html?rh=1

Don Worthington

Patients of Community Health Systems hospitals, or affiliated physicians, could be at risk of medical fraud, says the S.C. Department of Consumer Affairs. Community Health Systems – which operates eight hospitals in South Carolina including Chester Regional Medical Center and Springs Memorial Hospital in Lancaster – recently reported a cyber attack.

Associated Press: Heat advisory issued for eastern South Carolina

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=UqFcEBs1

It's going to be dangerously hot in eastern South Carolina. The National Weather Service has issued a heat advisory for the southeastern part of the state from noon to 7 p.m. Thursday. The advisory is in effect in Allendale, Beaufort, Berkeley, Colleton, Charleston, Dorchester, Hampton, and Jasper counties.

Rock Hill Herald: S.C. Rep. Simrill to speak at Winthrop Convocation

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/08/20/6247818/sc-rep-simrill-to-speak-at-winthrop.html>

Anna Douglas

South Carolina Republican lawmaker and Rock Hill businessman Gary Simrill will be Winthrop University's keynote speaker at the school's 2014 Convocation. Winthrop hosts its traditional Convocation on Monday at 3 p.m. The ceremony and the annual picnic afterward are free and open to the public.

Rock Hill Herald: Winthrop trustees privately discuss potential pay for next president

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/08/20/6249351/winthrop-trustees-privately-discuss.html>

Anna Douglas

Some Winthrop University trustees met behind closed doors in Columbia on Wednesday morning to discuss the future salary for the school's 11th president. Winthrop has not yet begun its search for former President Jamie Comstock Williamson's replacement.

Local News:

Aiken Standard: Local company expands facilities

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140821/AIK0101/140829946/1004/local-company-expands-facilities>

Aiken Standard

Rian True, the president of Carolina Covertech, said the company has one mission: To make life better. It hopes to do that for even more customers with its expansion that was announced on Wednesday.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Several area schools see significant improvement in ACT scores

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140820/ARTICLES/140829978/1083/ARTICLES?Title=Several-area-schools-see-significant-improvement-in-ACT-scores>

Zach Fox

Spartanburg-area high schools saw mixed results on the most recent ACT test, while scores across the state increased slightly, according to results released by the state Department of Education. The ACT tests students in four areas – English, math, science and reading.

Island Packet: Beaufort County ACT scores decline slightly

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/08/20/3267030/beaufort-county-act-scores-decline.html?sp=/99/257/266/>

Sarah Bowman

Beaufort County scores on the 2014 ACT college entrance exam dipped slightly, while the number of students taking the exam grew by 29 percent, according to data released Wednesday by the state Department of Education. The public-school district's average score among 2014 graduates was 20.6, down two-tenths of a point on a 36-point scale from 2013.

National News:

Associated Press: US mission to rescue hostages in Syria failed

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268744/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=eypq3NxR

Julie Pace

President Barack Obama sent special operations troops to Syria this summer on a secret mission to rescue American hostages, including journalist James Foley, held by Islamic State extremists, but they did not find them, the administration disclosed Wednesday.

Associated Press: Holder offers reassurance to people of Ferguson

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_289563/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=pNXhOQFY

Alan Scher Zagier

To reassure the people of Ferguson, Attorney General Eric Holder reached into his own past, recalling the times he had been stopped by police officers who seemed to target him because of his race. On a visit to the St. Louis suburb that has endured more than a week of unrest, Holder sought to build confidence in the

investigation into the death of the black 18-year-old who was shot by a white officer.

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