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Subject: FW: Morning Clips - Wednesday, October 2, 2013

The first item is from the event.

CLS

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From: Symmes, Brian
Sent: Wednesday, October 02, 2013 7:58 AM
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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Greenville News: Telepsychiatry program helps S.C. ERs address care shortages

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20131001/NEWS/310010151/Telepsychiatry-program-helps-S-C-ERs-address-care-shortages>

Tim Smith

Officials say a state telepsychiatry program supported by the Duke Endowment has been used thousands of times in hospital emergency rooms since it was installed in 2009. In an effort to meet the critical shortage of psychiatrists in South Carolina's underserved areas, the state's mental health agency utilizes real-time, state-of-the-art video-and-voice technology that connects qualified psychiatrists to participating hospitals throughout the state, according to the governor's office.

Note: "From the very beginning, we made it clear that South Carolina had a moral responsibility to correct longstanding issues and restore the public's confidence in the Department of Mental Health," said Gov. Nikki Haley. "The department lacked the appropriate funding and it was clear that our citizens were needlessly suffering. With partners like Duke Endowment and cutting edge advancements like the Telepsychiatry Consultation Program, we are now delivering mental health care where it's needed, when it's needed, while improving overall patient care and reducing costs and that is exactly the way it should be."

The State: Insurance website overwhelmed by first-day shoppers

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/10/01/3013556/insurance-web-site-overwhelmed.html#storylink=cpy>

Joey Holleman

The first-day rush to sign up for the new Health Insurance Marketplace, or simply curiosity about it, overwhelmed the healthcare.gov website Tuesday. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services said the website had 2.8 million visitors from midnight through 3 p.m., and "as with any new product launch, there will be glitches," said Marilyn Tavenner, administrator of the agency. Tavenner urged patience, noting that people can sign up for the Health Insurance Marketplace through March 31. "While this is the first day you can sign up, it's certainly not the last," she said.

Note: "Our job is to get the information out there," Haley said. "The fed's job is to make it work. Unfortunately, it's not working. We're going to continue doing what we can, but this is continuing to be the mess we thought it would be."

Associated Press: Group wants AG to advise on Haley's reimbursements

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=q1NMwb11

Seanna Adcox

A government watchdog group wants South Carolina's attorney general to weigh in on whether Gov. Nikki Haley should reimburse taxpayers for a trip to North Carolina in June. In a letter provided to The Associated Press, John Crangle of Common Cause asked the director of the State Ethics Commission to either change his mind or seek an attorney general's opinion. "We're giving him a chance to correct his own mistake," Crangle said after hand-delivering the letter to the agency Monday. Director Herb Hayden has said Haley doesn't need to pay for her security detail's expenses to a June 27 fundraiser for an organization supporting North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory's agenda.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Haley can appoint whoever she wants at The Citadel, and she will

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131002/PC16/131009931/1177/haley-can-appoint-whoever-she-wants-at-the-citadel-and-she-will>

Brian Hicks

Here's a news flash for all you Democrats out there: Nikki Haley does not care what you think. The South Carolina Democratic Party blew a gasket this week when Gov. Haley replaced the only black member of The Citadel's Board of Visitors with a white guy. A white guy who also just happens to be a Haley campaign contributor. Local lawmakers David Mack and Seth Whipper decried the pay-to-play politics of it all, as well as the first minority governor's lack of commitment to, well, diversity. They have a good point, of course, but they shouldn't be surprised.

The State: Where Have All The Lawyers Gone?

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=YAr9c54h

Cindi Scoppe

On the penultimate day of this year's legislative session, Senate Judiciary Chairman Larry Martin was explaining an intricate amendment to a bill to broaden the definition of stalking when Sen. Ronnie Cromer rose to ask him a question. The Newberry pharmacist prefaced his question by saying: "Senator, I'm not an attorney." What was notable was not the fact that a senator would not be a lawyer; long gone are the days when that was nearly a prerequisite for joining the Senate. What was notable was the fact that Mr. Martin, who runs the legislative committee that more than any other is looked upon to sort out complex constitutional matters and work through the thorniest questions involving civil, criminal, contract and other matters of law, could have responded by saying, "Neither am I."

The State (Guest Column): Solutions, Not Slogans Needed To Fix Health Care In South Carolina

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=8cd2f0k9

James E. Clyburn

The hypocrisy of South Carolina's current leadership on the issue of health care would be laughable if it weren't truly a matter of life and death. The United Health Foundation ranks South Carolina 46th in overall health status, and 19.7 percent of our residents lack health insurance, worse than 44 other states. South Carolina tops the charts in negative health statistics; deaths due to stroke and prostate cancer, amputations due to the late detection of diabetes, and premature low birth weight babies. South Carolina's government has not only failed to address these growing health concerns, it has actively opposed any federal efforts to provide much needed health care to our state's residents. Monday's front-page article in The State, "Medicaid rolls could swell in S.C., despite state's 'no' to expansion," illustrates that point.

Greenville News: Keep school choice accountable

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20131002/OPINION/310020008/Greenville-News-editorial-Keep-school-choice-accountable>

Editorial

South Carolina lawmakers recently got some sound advice for making this state's so far very limited foray into school choice even more effective at achieving its stated eventual goal of improving educational opportunities for at risk students and improving all schools in South Carolina by creating a layer of competition for failing public schools. The state adopted the narrow school choice program this year when lawmakers created tax credits for donations to scholarship funds for students with disabilities to attend private schools. It was a stripped-down version of a broader bill proposed by Sen. Larry Grooms that also would have created the credits for scholarship funds for lower-income students, along with tax deductions for families that send their children to private schools or home school their children.

Aiken Standard: Small modular reactors: Too good to be true?

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20131002/AIK0201/131009982/1018/AIK02/editorial-small-modular-reactors-too-good-to-be-true>

Editorial

Small modular reactors – also known as SMRs – have been the talk of the nuclear town over the last several weeks. By definition, SMRs are reactors, buried in the ground, with an electricity output of less than 300 megawatts. They are said to allow for less on-site construction, increase containment efficiency and heightened nuclear materials security, which would jump-start a depleting nuclear industry. On Sept. 17, the U.S. Department of Energy missed its target date for announcing the beneficiary of a \$226 million grant for the use of small modular reactors.

Rock Hill Herald: House GOP must let federal budget pass

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/10/01/5265511/house-gop-must-let-federal-budget.html#storylink=cpy>

Editorial

Several busloads of World War II veterans on Tuesday ignored barriers set up on the National Mall in Washington and visited the memorial established to honor them and memorialize their colleagues who died in the war. The Mississippi veterans had travelled to Washington as part of the Honor Flight program that brings veterans to the World War II memorial. But the government of the country they fought to preserve - and that nearly 400,000 of their generation died to defend - had shut down because of political bickering. News reports Tuesday differed on how the veterans got in. Some reports said the veterans themselves pushed aside the barriers, while others reported a few GOP congressmen or U.S. Park Service employees were responsible.

Government Shutdown News:

Aiken Standard: Aiken legislators amazed by Washington stonewall

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20131002/AIK0101/131009927/1007/AIK0101/aiken-legislators-amazed-by-washington-stonewall>

Rob Novit

As the federal government shutdown moves into its second day, S.C. Rep. Bill Clyburn, D-Aiken, calls the situation a tragedy. "It troubles me to know we can't get the government to move," he said. "It's just that simple, but it's not registering with them. These people are pretty intelligent, and there's no reason to believe they don't know the damage they have caused." It's shameful that individual government employees are caught in the furlough situation, said S.C. Rep. Bill Taylor, R-Aiken. "But there is a much bigger issue at stake," he said. "The federal government is hugely bloated and has been expanding for decades, regardless of which party is in control. The nonsense must stop."

Associated Press: Shutdown is latest bad news for military towns

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=rnapJF89

Jeffrey Collins and Russ Bynum

The partial government shutdown is just the latest bad news for military towns already grappling with mandatory budget cuts and planned reductions in the size of the country's armed forces. Military contractors and other small businesses have been preparing for the worst for months in places like Fayetteville, N.C., home of Fort Bragg, and Hinesville, Ga., home of Fort Stewart. Now comes this: brinkmanship in Washington. But people like Brian Kent, president of K3 Enterprises, say something must be done soon to save these businesses.

Post and Courier: First day of federal shutdown sends workers home and leaves citizens angry

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131001/PC16/131009925/1006/shutdown-x2-subheader-xyyx-xyxy-xy-xy-xy-xy-xy-xy-xy-xyxy-xy-xyxy-yy>

Schuyler Kropf

Aleathia Manigault visited the Charleston IRS office shortly after lunchtime Tuesday, only to discover the lights were out and the door was locked. "In the event of a government shutdown, this office will be closed," a sign in the window said. Manigault, a sweetgrass basket-weaver who lives in West Ashley, was annoyed at the speed that federal work came to a halt. "Now where do I go to pay?" she said of the monthly installment plan she had set up to give Uncle Sam her hard-earned tax dollars. "This is one big mess," she added. Around Charleston, thousands of people awoke wondering when the government would come back to life as the first hours of the Washington gridlock-linked shutdown ticked away.

Times and Democrat: Budget woes could hit kid, farm, programs

http://thetandd.com/business/agriculture/budget-woes-could-hit-kid-farm-programs/article_a399965a-2a45-11e3-9ac1-0019bb2963f4.html

Gene Zaleski

With lawmakers unable to come to an agreement on budget issues, everything from early childhood education programs to farms could be affected. If a government shutdown is short, "it is survivable. If it meanders on, there is potential for great harm," said Calvin Wright, the executive director of the Orangeburg-Calhoun-Allendale-Bamberg Community Action Agency Inc. On Monday, House Republicans continued to insist on changes to the nation's health care overhaul as the price for preventing the first partial government shutdown in 17 years.

Greenville News: Effects of shutdown felt in South Carolina

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20131002/SPECIAL09/310020014/Effects-shutdown-felt-South-Carolina>

Eric Connor, David Dykes

The first day of the federal government's shutdown had far-reaching effects in the Upstate, South Carolina and across the nation Tuesday, leaving vacation plans, food assistance for infants and millions of dollars in commerce clouded in uncertainty. Later this month, Matt Williams, a Greenville banker, will make his first trip to New York City — but it might not be all he had hoped for. Williams and his wife crafted their "must-do" list — a Broadway show, a walk through Central Park and visiting Ground Zero, Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty — all carefully scheduled around Clemson's afternoon kickoff against Boston College. Because of the shutdown nationwide of 401 sites in the federal parks system, Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty would have to be stricken from the list.

Aiken Standard: Government shutdown has local impact

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20131002/AIK0101/131009903/1007/AIK0101/government-shutdown-has-local-impact>

Now that the U.S. Government has partially shut down, anxiety and frustration among citizens across the United States is peaking. Nobody knows how long the shutdown will last, depending on how long it takes Congress to pass a new spending bill. But, it seems that new information is coming out as each hour passes of how the shutdown is impacting this country. The Department of Energy recently announced that all but eight employees will be furloughed at the Savannah River Operations office and all but one employee will be furloughed from the SRS office if DOE suffers a lapse in appropriations.

Island Packet: Furloughed government employees protest, plan Beaufort rally

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/10/01/2716109/furloughed-government-employees.html#storylink=cpy>

Matt McNab

Furloughed members of the local American Federation of Government Employees union will rally Thursday in Beaufort to protest the government shutdown. Local union president Sue Partridge and several other union members were out Tuesday on the corner of Marsh Road and Boundary Street in Beaufort, just hours after they were notified about furloughs because of the partial government shutdown. On Thursday, they'll be outside Beaufort City Hall on Boundary Street at 11 a.m. protesting, Partridge said.

The State: Columbia federal employees affected by government shutdown

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/10/01/3014492/columbia-federal-employees-affected.html#storylink=cpy>

Cassie Cope

Maj. Cindi King, a public affairs officer with the S.C. National Guard, is monitoring the news and watching her budget. King and her husband are two of the approximately 1,200 federal technicians for the S.C. National Guard and thousands of other federal employees across the state affected by the federal government shutdown. For instance, Fort Jackson, with an annual payroll of \$155 million a year, employs 3,500 civilian workers, most of whom will be furloughed because of the shutdown. The shutdown resulted after a growing standoff in Congress came to a head Monday when lawmakers failed to agree on a budget for the fiscal year that began Tuesday.

Sun News: Federal government shutdown ties up food funds for mothers, closes wildlife area

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/10/01/3745795/federal-government-shutdown-ties.html#storylink=cpy>

Maya T. Prabhu

More than 125,000 S.C. women, infants and children may soon lose access to the federal program that

provides money for supplemental food, health care referrals and nutrition education. Due to the federal government shutdown, no additional federal funds will be available to support the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children's clinical services, food benefits and administrative costs, according to a memo sent out by U.S. Department of Agriculture last week. As of Tuesday afternoon, the agency's website was not available "due to the lapse in federal government funding."

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Government shutdown closes local national parks

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20131001/ARTICLES/310011035/1083/ARTICLES?Title=Government-shutdown-closes-local-national-parks>

Lynne P. Shackelford

It's unclear how long the government shutdown will last, but national parks were closed Tuesday just days before large crowds were expected to commemorate the 233rd anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain. Kings Mountain National Military Park, which is situated in York and Cherokee counties, and Cowpens National Battlefield in Cherokee County were both shuttered Tuesday morning as staffers awaited word on an appropriations bill so they can resume operations. Kings Mountain Chief Ranger Chris Revels said 17 employees at the park have been furloughed, with three key staffers left for maintenance.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Marlon Kimpson captures Robert Ford's old seat

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4vrcY9uS

Democrat Marlon Kimpson easily became South Carolina's newest state senator Tuesday, swamping two opponents with 80 percent of the vote to claim the seat once held by longtime Sen. Robert Ford. Kimpson outdistanced Republican real estate agent Billy Shuman, who had about 19 percent, and Libertarian Alex Thornton in the special election to fill the seat Ford held for two decades. Thornton, a photographer, had about 1 percent. The predominantly Democratic district includes the northern end of the Charleston peninsula, as well as neighborhoods in the city's West Ashley section, and reaches north into North Charleston and Dorchester County.

Post and Courier: Marlon Kimpson wins Senate 42 seat in a landslide

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131001/PC16/131009909/1006/marlon-kimpson-wins-senate-42-seat-in-a-landslide>

Robert Behre

Democrat Marlon Kimpson breezed to victory Tuesday in the special election to fill the state Senate held by Robert Ford. Kimpson bested Republican Billy Shuman by a 4-1 margin. Libertarian candidate Alex Thornton received about 1 percent. "Tonight, the people have spoken, and 80 percent of the voters want to take the district in a new direction," Kimpson told a roomful of more than 100 cheering supporters. Turnout was about 13 percent among District 42 voters, who are in parts of West Ashley, peninsular Charleston and North Charleston.

Post and Courier: Long waits greet visitors on new insurance marketplace website

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131001/PC1610/131009969/1006/long-waits-greet-visitors-on-new-insurance-marketplace-website>

Lauren Sausser

After three years of hype and one government shutdown later, the federal health insurance marketplace opened for enrollment Tuesday — but not without a few major stumbles, making it very difficult for South Carolinians to actually sign up for a policy using the new platform. A message on the marketplace website explained early Tuesday and several times throughout the afternoon: "We have a lot of visitors on our site right now and we're working to make your experience here better. Please wait here until we send you to the login page. Thanks for your patience!"

Note: A spokeswoman for Gov. Nikki Haley said her office took more than 40 calls about the insurance marketplace on Tuesday.

Sun News: Frustration high among those visiting healthcare website

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/10/01/3746017/frustration-high-among-those-visiting.html#storylink=cpy>

Vicki Grooms

Some area residents on Tuesday joined many across the country who were frustrated in their efforts to shop for health insurance on the first day of the new federal insurance marketplace. Residents said they either

were unable to access the healthcare.gov website or to navigate through the process if they managed to get into it. “I tried off and on for about three hours, and I’m done – I’m going to wait a couple weeks,” said Jon Henderson, who said he left the Horry County Sheriff’s Office in February after seven years because of health problems.

The State: SC Attorney General calls roll of domestic violence victims

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/10/01/3013675/attorney-general-wilson-calls.html#storylink=cpy>

John Monk

They died by knife and fist and gun. Two were beaten to death with a baseball bat. One died from general abuse and neglect. Most bodies were discovered right away; others were buried in the woods. They were the 48 S.C. victims of criminal domestic violence in 2012, whose names were read aloud Tuesday by S.C. Attorney General Alan Wilson in the state’s annual Day of Remembrance. It was names like those that have recently gained South Carolina national recognition. “South Carolina is now ranked No. 1 in the rate of men killing women, based on 2011 data,” Wilson told the crowd of more than 200 gathered at the rear of the State House grounds.

Rock Hill Herald: SC mandates all sewage and waste facilities to test for toxic pollutant

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/10/01/5265856/sc-mandates-all-sewage-and-waste.html#storylink=cpy>

Jie Jenny Zou

The state has mandated all wastewater treatment plants and municipal solid waste landfills test for a toxic pollutant after rolling out emergency regulations last week. The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control has required facilities to test their waste for traces of polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, statewide. The chemical was commonly used as an industrial coolant at electric plants but was banned by Congress in 1979. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities Department and the city of Rock Hill, two entities permitted by the state to apply sludge to acres throughout York, Lancaster and Chester counties, said they were in compliance with the order and are in the process of testing their sludge to meet new guidelines.

Local News:

Times and Democrat: Butler becomes Orangeburg's first African-American mayor

http://thetandd.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/butler-becomes-orangeburg-s-first-african-american-mayor/article_0b939080-2b13-11e3-8540-0019bb2963f4.html

Martha Rose Brown

Orangeburg Mayor Michael Butler stood before the crowd of about 350 people who came to see him sworn into office Tuesday, saying “I’m thankful for you, the citizens of Orangeburg.” “I won’t let you down,” Butler said. He vowed, “I’m going to roll up my sleeves” and move the city forward. Butler defeated longtime Mayor Paul Miller in last month’s city election, in the process becoming Orangeburg’s first African-American mayor. To handle the number of people who came to see him take the oath of office, the city held the swearing-in ceremony in Stevenson Auditorium instead of Council Chambers next door.

Florence Morning News: Florence County penny tax in hands of state Supreme Court

http://www.snow.com/news/politics/article_b49a1178-2b08-11e3-8fe9-0019bb30f31a.html

Lindsay S. Buchanan

South Carolina’s five Supreme Court justices heard arguments from the state’s Attorney General’s office and Florence County on Tuesday morning on the county’s attempts to put a referendum in front of voters in November for a re-imposition of the current Capital Project Sales Tax, or penny tax, for a new set of projects. Deputy Solicitor General J. Emory Smith, Jr. argued for the petitioners that although Florence County may have the right to impose the penny tax for a second time, they are going about it the wrong way according to the AG’s interpretation of the law.

National News:

Associated Press: Government shutdown: No progress on ending stalemate

http://www.snow.com/news/politics/article_31b97f18-2b4f-11e3-a7ab-001a4bcf6878.html

The political stare-down on Capitol Hill shows no signs of easing, leaving federal government functions — from informational websites, to national parks, to processing veterans’ claims — in limbo from coast to coast. Lawmakers in both parties ominously suggested the partial shutdown might last for weeks. A funding

cutoff for much of the government began Tuesday as a Republican effort to kill or delay the nation's health care law stalled action on a short-term, traditionally routine spending bill. Republicans pivoted to a strategy to try to reopen the government piecemeal but were unable to immediately advance the idea in the House.

CBS: Obamacare marketplaces raise data security concerns

http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-250_162-57605564/obamacare-marketplaces-raise-data-security-concerns/
Stephanie Condon

Minnesota insurance broker Jim Koester was looking for information about assisting with Obamacare implementation; instead, what landed in his inbox last month was a document filled with the names, Social Security numbers and other pieces of personal information belonging to his fellow Minnesotans. In one of the first breaches of the new Obamacare online marketplaces, an employee of the Minnesota marketplace, called MNsure, accidentally emailed Koester a document containing personally identifying information for more than 2,400 insurance agents, the Minnesota Star Tribune reported. MNsure was able to quickly undo the damage because Koester cooperated with them, but the incident left him unnerved.

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