

From: Symmes, Brian
To:
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Subject: Morning Clips - Wednesday, September 11, 2013

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Rock Hill Herald: Rock Hill school board takes initial look at concussion policy for student-athletes
<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/09/10/5196478/rock-hill-school-board-takes-initial.html#storylink=cpy>
Rachel Southmayd

Rock Hill school board members got their first look this week at a new district policy regarding concussions and student-athletes. The policy was created in response to a new South Carolina law regarding youth concussions passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Nikki Haley in June, said Rock Hill High School athletic director Bill Warren, who presented the policy at Monday's board meeting. The state law mandates each school district formally develop its own concussion policy and guidelines based on recommendations from the state Department of Health and Environmental Control. The law also requires athletes who may have suffered a concussion to be removed from the field for evaluation and educating athletes and their parents about the dangers of concussions.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

WIS: Dueling websites highlight heated 2014 gubernatorial race
<http://www.wistv.com/story/23398496/dueling-websites-highlight-heated-2014-gubernatorial-race>
PJ Randhawa

An increasingly heated political climate surrounds next year's gubernatorial election. State Republicans and Democrats have both launched new websites using the names of their competitors to try to discredit them before voters get to the polls. The election may be more than a year away, but South Carolina Republicans are hoping to get ahead of the competition. This morning they launched a website aimed at discrediting Gov. Nikki Haley's chief Democratic challenger, state Sen. Vincent Sheheen. The new website, VinceSheheen.com, alleges Sheheen represents a threat to the economic stability of South Carolina.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Obama's unconvincing case
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130911/PC1002/130919862/1021/obama-x2019-s-unconvincing-case>

Editorial

President Barack Obama, in Tuesday night's televised speech from the White House, called for a postponement of Congress' vote to authorize U.S. military action against Syria. But he also persisted in making an unconvincing case that "with modest effort and risk" American air power could "deter" and "degrade" the Syrian government's use of chemical weapons. Mr. Obama is correct in decrying the Assad regime's use of sarin gas against civilians as "not only a violation of international law" but "a danger to our security." He fairly warned that if Syria isn't called to account for its Aug. 21 poison-gas massacre of more than 1,400 civilians, "other tyrants will have no reason to think twice about acquiring poison gas and using them." However, the president failed again Tuesday night to provide sufficient answers to fundamental questions about how the limited military response he favors would hold Syria to effective account.

Post and Courier: Give advanced level nurses authority to stem S.C. crisis
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130911/PC1002/130919866/1021/give-advanced-level-nurses-authority-to-stem-sc-crisis>

Editorial

In South Carolina, 42 out of 46 counties are designated as rural or medically underserved by the federal government. According to the U.S. Health Report Card, South Carolina ranks "F" in overall health status, emergency care, chronic disease management and prenatal care. Our state ranks 7th in the nation in infant

mortality and 47th in low birth weight. Whether you support the national health care reform efforts or not, the simple fact remains that in 2014 the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will bring 30 million new patients into an already broken system that is unable to provide needed care. In South Carolina alone, we will have to find a way to provide primary health care services to a projected 800,000 new patients.

Greenville News: Port deepening is moving ahead

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130911/OPINION/309110006/Port-deepening-moving-ahead>

Editorial

The Army Corps of Engineers has finished the field studies that it needs to complete its analysis of the environmental impact of a needed deepening of Charleston Harbor. The data will be studied, and a draft environmental impact statement will be issued next year. That will lead to a formal recommendation by the Corps sometime in 2015, followed by consideration of the project by Congress, according to a recent report by The Associated Press. The final studies were completed in the past two weeks, according to the AP report. Preliminary data suggest the ocean floor in the area to be dredged is not hard rock that could have driven up the cost of the project. That is good news. The project is forecast to cost between \$300 million and \$350 million, split between the state and federal governments. Obviously the less it costs, the better the prospects for moving forward.

Sun News: Myrtle Beach-area 'Shields' groups seeks military names, hosts 9/11 remembrance event

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/09/10/3700998/editorial-myrtle-beach-area-shields.html#storylink=cpy>

Editorial

Coastal Carolina Shields was started five years ago with 30 retired law enforcement officers. The area group, modeled after Shields organizations in New York, was limited to retired officers to keep the size manageable, president Dennis Cangelosi recalls. The group recently accepted its 530th member and adds another 10 or so every month as retiring officers move to the Grand Strand. "I don't see it stopping," Cangelosi says. Coastal Carolina Shields has members from 20 states, the District of Columbia and Canada. Members include retired federal agents, state troopers and local officers like Cangelosi who was a police sergeant in Rockland County, north of New York City.

Aiken Standard: Consider tax dollars in school lunch plan

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130911/AIK0201/130919977/1018/AIK02/editorial-consider-tax-dollars-in-school-lunch-plan>

Editorial

Students in certain cities across the country can now eat free school meals regardless of family income as part of a new, experimental federal initiative. The program, already in use or soon to be used in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago and Detroit, will be open to any school district across the country with high concentrations of students from low-income families by the start of the next school year. With the initiative soon to be expanded, the program's cost for taxpayers has to be taken into consideration. The free meals are covered by federal dollars, and are given to students regardless of whether or not their families can afford them. While it helps low-income families and allows them to eliminate the need to fill out potentially invasive paperwork, the costs for all students, even when the meals are tossed in the garbage bin, are covered by our tax dollars.

Times and Democrat: America is safer but the danger is complacency

http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/editorial/america-is-safer-but-the-danger-is-complacency/article_e98feeac-1a96-11e3-be28-0019bb2963f4.html

Editorial

THE ISSUE: Sept. 11, 2001; OUR OPINION: Awareness, preparedness make the nation safer now, but time erodes memory of the horror. Can any American truly say he or she feels safer today from terrorism than in the years, months and even days before the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001? If only for the reason that more than a decade has passed since that horrible day, the answer is "yes." And there are ample reasons to believe that major progress has been made against terror networks, but the work is never-ending. No matter how many terrorist plans are foiled, just one attack carried through to fruition can be horrific.

The State: Go ahead, make my day: Appeal the Richland election commission ruling

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/11/2972319/scoppe-go-ahead-make-my-day-appeal.html>

Cindi Scoppe

Perhaps I didn't think this through sufficiently. Perhaps, contrary to what I wrote for Sunday's editorial,

Richland County senators should appeal the court order striking down the law that merged the county's election and voter registration offices. There's every reason to think the Supreme Court will uphold Circuit Judge Thomas Cooper's order, which said the 2011 law violated the state constitution's ban on single-county and other special laws. That's because the law he struck down applied to only one county, something the constitution bars in almost all cases. And our Supreme Court has a solid record of finding in favor of the constitution when the Legislature chooses to ignore that part of it.

Remembering 9/11 In South Carolina:

WSPA: Remembering 9/11: From the Carolinas To Ground Zero

<http://www.wspa.com/story/23394071/remembering-911-from-the-carolinas-to-ground-zero>

A day that will forever go down as one of the nation's most tragic is being remembered this week. Wednesday marks 12 years since the September 11 terrorist attacks on the United States. Events have been scheduled from across the Carolinas to where the tragedies took place.

Associated Press: Speakers honor first responders at Sept. 11 event in S.C.

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/sep/11/speakers-honor-first-responders-sept-11-event/>

Officials from the Columbia area are honoring the fallen firefighters, law enforcement personnel, K-9 troopers and U.S. military men and women on the anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Wednesday's event takes place at 5 p.m. at the memorial to the fallen next to Columbia's Metropolitan Visitors Center. Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott and South Carolina Public Safety Director Leroy Smith are making remarks. A roll call for fallen heroes is also planned as well as the unveiling of a memorial to fallen K-9 troopers. A flyover will include aircraft from the State Law Enforcement Division, the Lexington and Richland County sheriff's departments and the South Carolina National Guard.

WYFF: Upstate firefighters mark terror attack anniversary

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/local-news/greenville-news/upstate-firefighters-mark-terror-attack-anniversary/-/9654794/21879234/-/504diqz/-/index.html?absolute=true>

Greenville County's Boiling Springs Fire District is one of many organizations planning to hold public services Wednesday morning observing the anniversary of the 2001 terror attacks on the United States. The event will be conducted at the district's headquarters located at 5020 Pelham Road, at the corner of Pelham and Garlington Roads. With the District's 9/11 Memorial Plaza as the backdrop, the public and members of the fire service will gather at 9:30 a.m. The brief observance begins at 9:59 a.m., marking the time that the South Tower of the World Trade Center fell twelve years ago.

Fox Carolina: 12 years later: Furman, Clemson students remember 9/11

<http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/23398529/twelve-years-later-furman-students-remember>

Brittany Vollmer and Casey Vaughn

Twelve years ago, the nation stood in shock, watching events play-out from the biggest terrorist attack on US soil. Victim's and heroes will be remembered across the country, as Wednesday marks the twelfth anniversary of the attacks on the Twin Towers in New York, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. and on United Airlines Flight 93. This year Furman University's Conservative Students for a Better Tomorrow placed a flag on campus for every life lost on that day to remember the tragedy. Their display includes nearly 3,000 flags. The flags will be displayed through Sept. 12 on Milford Mall in front of the James Buchanan Duke Library at Furman.

Seneca Journal: 'Cry out, America' 9/11 remembrance held today in Pickens

<https://upstatetoday.com/2013/09/%E2%80%98cry-out-america%E2%80%99-911-remembrance-held-today-in-pickens/>

Wayne Morton

The 2013 "Cry Out, America" 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony and Prayer Service is scheduled for today at noon on the steps of the Pickens County Courthouse. "The public, businesses, government agencies, schools and churches are encouraged to take an hour to come together on this historic day that changed our lives and the world forever," said the Rev. Tony Edwards, Pickens County coordinator and pastor of Gap Hill Church of God near Six Mile. This is the sixth year of the "Cry Out, America" grassroots effort, and the campaign was observed last year in all 50 states, with hundreds of thousands of people responding in the public square and other public places, Edwards said.

Seneca Journal: 9-11, now and then

<https://upstatetoday.com/2013/09/9-11-now-and-then/>

Carlos Galarza-Veve

On a day like today 12 years ago, people of Oconee County got up and went about their business. Men and women drove to work, children took the school bus and arrived at their classrooms. Truman Holbrooks of Westminster was working in Georgia that day. He was about to go on a break when someone told him the news of an airplane flying into one of the towers at the World Trade Center in New York City. It was the start of a chain of news events that horrifies Holbrooks to this day.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Hurricane Humberto forms in the Atlantic

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

Humberto (oom-BEHR'-toh) has strengthened to a Category 1 hurricane far out in the Atlantic, becoming the first hurricane of the Atlantic season. Humberto's maximum sustained winds early Wednesday are near 75 mph (120 kph). The U.S. National Hurricane Center says the hurricane could gain more strength before a weakening trend likely starts on Thursday. Humberto is centered about 310 miles (500 kilometers) west-northwest of the southernmost Cape Verde Islands and is moving north-northwest near 8 mph (13 kph). Meanwhile, Tropical Storm Gabrielle (ga-bree-EHL') is weakening as it moves away from Bermuda after hitting the wealthy British territory with wind, rain and rough surf. Gabrielle's maximum sustained winds decreased to near 50 mph (85 kph).

Associated Press: SC VA holds conference on anti-suicide resources

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

The Dorn Veterans Administration Medical Center is scheduled to hold a health summit to battle suicide and help military veterans learn more about services the center can provide. Medical Center spokesman Kevin McIver says Wednesday's event is being held at the Medallion Conference Center in Columbia from 8:30 a. m. until 3:30 p.m. Veterans and their families may attend sessions to learn more about health care services in the community and the Veterans Administration. VA officials have estimated that around 20 military veterans have committed suicide every day in recent years. The administration has put forward a plan to help veterans deal with post-traumatic brain injuries and mental health issues and to reduce suicides, which includes holding such conferences around the country.

Associated Press: Wind energy in Southeast topic of conference

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/09/11/2677630/wind-energy-in-southeast-topic.html#storylink=cpy>

Industry leaders, researchers and lawmakers from around the Southeast are scheduled to meet in South Carolina to talk about the potential for developing wind energy in the region. The two-day Southeastern Coastal Wind Conference is slated to get under way on Wednesday in North Charleston. The topics include the potential for developing both land-based wind energy and well as developing turbines to tap wind energy off the coast. There will also be discussion on what resources are available in the region to provide the equipment and construct and maintain such turbines.

Associated Press: USC marks 50th year of university's integration

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

Two of the three students who integrated South Carolina's flagship university 50 years ago are retracing their steps. Robert Anderson, James Solomon and Henrie Monteith became the university's first African-American students since reconstruction on Sept. 11, 1963. Anderson died in 2009, but the others are taking part in several commemorative events to mark the anniversary on Wednesday. A series of events is planned through the coming year. Former United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young is speaking Wednesday evening at the Koger Center in Columbia.

Florence Morning News: Honda partners with S.C. Education Lottery on new ticket

http://www.snow.com/news/local/article_916c50ca-1a4c-11e3-afb5-0019bb30f31a.html

Gavin Jackson

Feeling lucky? The South Carolina Education Lottery hopes so with the launch of its newest \$3 instant win ticket that forges a unique partnership with the agency and Honda of South Carolina Manufacturing Inc. The ticket, announced at a press conference Tuesday, gives players a chance to win up to \$75,000 or a second-chance opportunity to win one of 15 Honda Rancher 4x4s manufactured in Timmonsville. In fact Timmonsville is even mentioned on the ATV adorned ticket, representing a first of its kind partnership with the S.C. Education Lottery, executive director Paula Harper Bethea said.

Post and Courier: College of Charleston considering North Charleston site for North Campus and Lowcountry Graduate Center

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130910/PC16/130919904/1389/college-of-charleston-considering-north-charleston-site-for-north-campus-and-lowcountry-graduate-center>

Diane Knich

A new College of Charleston Bachelor of Professional Studies program, designed for nontraditional students with at least 60 credits, will help her accomplish that goal. That program will be housed on the college's North Campus, which must move out of its current location on International Boulevard near the Charleston International Airport, by the end of July. Boeing Co. purchased the office complex in December, and all the building's tenants had to find new space. The college has found a suitable site for its North Campus and the Lowcountry Graduate Center, which offers graduate programs, in a new building at 4105 Faber Place Drive, on the corner of Faber Place Drive and Leeds Avenue in North Charleston. The state's Commission on Higher Education approved a seven-year lease in August, which would cost between \$7.8 million and \$8.5 million. The plan now must be approved by the state's Budget and Control Board, said Godfrey Gibbison, dean of the college's North Campus. The board likely will consider the plan in October.

Anderson Independent: Utility wants to raise S.C. customers' rates more than 45 percent

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/sep/10/utility-wants-raise-sc-customers-rates-more-45-per/>

Nikie Mayo

Utilities Services of South Carolina wants to increase its residential customers' water and sewer rates by more than 45 percent. The utility serves more than 6,000 people in South Carolina, including some in Anderson County. The utility wants to increase water customers' rates by 46 percent and sewer customers' rates by 58 percent. If the full rate increases are approved, a residential customer's monthly water bill, now \$41, would increase to \$60. A residential customer who receives sewer service from the utility would see his or her bill, now \$41.39, increase to \$65.31 a month. The Public Service Commission of South Carolina has the authority to accept, reject or modify the request, and must render a decision by late December or early January. The commission has scheduled a public hearing in Anderson on Oct. 1 to gather testimony and comments about the proposal.

Local News:

The State: Group Backing Strong-mayor Vote Says It Has The Signatures

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Sc1dEnjU

Clif LeBlanc

Backers of a referendum to change Columbia's form of government on Tuesday afternoon will submit petitions with what they assert are sufficient signatures to force City Council to put a strong-mayor option to voters on Nov. 5. The petition still must be certified by the Richland County Election Commission and the county elections and voter registration office. Under state law, that office – widely blamed for botching last November's presidential election – has up to 15 days to verify that at least 15 percent of Columbia eligible voters have signed the petition. Petition backers say the magic number is 11,063 eligible voters. Richard Quinn, one of the petition organizers, said they had gathered a total of between 19,000 and 20,000 signatures in recent weeks at festivals and shopping areas. But not all have been verified as city residents.

Times and Democrat: Michael Butler makes history as first African-American elected mayor of city of Orangeburg; Barnwell re-elected to council

http://thetandd.com/news/michael-butler-makes-history-as-first-african-american-elected-mayor/article_53c9c0d4-1a8a-11e3-9fea-001a4bcf887a.html

Gene Crider:

Orangeburg voters elected Michael C. Butler on Tuesday, making him the city's first African-American mayor. After his win, Butler told the crowd that filled his Broughton Street election headquarters to overflowing, "If there's anyone out there who still doubts America is a place where things are possible, who still wonders if the dreams of our founders are alive in our time, who still questions the power of our democracy tonight — this is your answer." Butler won a four-year term with 844 votes, or 53 percent of the vote, to sitting Mayor Paul Miller's 731, which was 46 percent. Thirteen write-in votes were cast. In City Council District 3, Charles B. "Buddy" Barnwell was re-elected to the seat he's held since 2001 with 183 votes, or 59 percent, to Jerry Goldstein Hannah's 126 votes, or 41 percent. One write-in vote was cast.

Times and Democrat: At the polls: City voters divided on same vs. change

http://thetandd.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/at-the-polls-city-voters-divided-on-same-vs-change/article_a9a82b92-1a78-11e3-be30-001a4bcf887a.html

Gene Zaleski

Orangeburg voters were divided Tuesday over who they think should lead the city in the next four years in what polling managers said was an average turnout for a city election. Teresa Keitt said she voted for Michael C. Butler for mayor because she wants change. "Too many things are disappearing over here," she said. "We don't have a movie theater, we don't have a bowling alley. Jobs are leaving here. There is nothing here for the college students for them to embrace. We need a city gym. We need to fight crime. I feel some of the buildings need to be restored or occupied."

Post and courier: Property compensation ordinance dies at Charleston City Council

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130910/PC16/130919873/1006/property-compensation-dies-at-chas-city-council>

Schuyler Kropf

A proposal to compensate city of Charleston landowners who might suffer when their property is down-zoned fizzled out Tuesday. Instead, City Council agreed to improve how it warns property owners when their area is being targeted for a down-zoning, as happened to a segment of the Cannonborough-Elliotborough neighborhood recently. Councilman Aubry Alexander proposed the city adopt a "government-initiated down-zoning ordinance" that would have required assessments of lost value be done when a zoning category changes, and that landowners be compensated. Mayor Joe Riley, other council members and preservationist groups opposed the compensation idea, saying it would cost untold amounts of money the city doesn't have and would endanger almost all zoning efforts into the future.

The State: Delegation to seek stay so Columbia Nov. 5 elections can be held smoothly

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/10/2972583/exclusive-delegation-to-seek-stay.html#storylink=cpy>

John Monk

The Nov. 5 Columbia City Council and mayor elections, and a countywide library bond referendum, may be able to be carried out without fear of a legal disruption. Sen. John Courson, R-Richland, disclosed Tuesday that he and three fellow Richland County senators have filed a request with Circuit Judge G. Thomas Cooper to grant what amounts to a stay – a temporary halting – of the effect of the implementation of Cooper's Aug. 26 order. Cooper ruled that the 2011 merger of Richland County's elections and voter registration offices, approved by the General Assembly, violates the state constitution. Such a ruling raised the possibility that the Nov. 5 election was going to be overseen by unconstitutional agencies – and as such open to legal challenge.

Island Packet: No primary needed for Beaufort County Council election; Fobes only candidate

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/09/10/2676027/beaufort-county-council-election.html>

Zach Murdock

The special election to fill a vacant Beaufort County Council seat remains a one-man race, which could save the county money, according to election officials. Retired banker Steve Fobes is the only candidate who has filed for the District 10 seat, which represents part of Hilton Head Island and was left vacant when Steve Baer, a Republican, resigned at the end of July. No one had filed as a write-in candidate by the Monday deadline, which means no party primary will be held, according to Marie Smalls, interim director of the Beaufort County Board of Voter Registration and Elections. That should save the county money, although it's not yet clear how much, Smalls said. County officials initially estimated the election for the seat could cost between \$24,000 and \$36,000.

Aiken Standard: One vote left to decide fate of Project Jackson funding

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130911/AIK0101/130919946/1007/AIK0101/one-vote-left-to-decide-fate-of-project-jackson-funding>

Amy Banton

Project Jackson is heading to the top of the ninth inning as only one more vote is needed from Aiken County Council to defer several million dollars in property tax revenue that would help fund the endeavor. County Council voted 6 to 3 for an extension of the North Augusta Tax Increment Financing plan, often referred to as the TIF, to help pay for the construction of a multi-use sports and entertainment venue, conference center and parking structures at the river front. Council members Kathy Rawls, Phil Napier and Willar Hightower voted against the motion. The final reading will tentatively be held on Sept. 17 at the next regular Council meeting.

The State: EPA agrees on pollution fine, cleanup for Columbia sewage system

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/10/2972640/epa-agrees-on-pollution-fine-cleanup.html#storylink=cpy>

Sammy Fretwell

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has signed off on a plan that will force Columbia to upgrade its leaky, spill-prone sewage system during the next 10 to 12 years. Federal regulators say the city expects to spend some \$750 million making utility improvements as part of the agreement, which sets legally binding procedures and dates for Columbia to clean up its act. City Council approved the plan last month after releasing the proposed enforcement agreement. Federal approvals were needed. The U.S. Department of Justice, the EPA and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control announced the proposed settlement Tuesday. The city is being fined nearly \$500,000 for a series of sewer spills and pollution law violations during the past five years. It also must spend \$1 million cleaning up several major tributaries along the Broad and Congaree rivers.

Post and Courier: Berkeley County schools set community meetings regarding site of school serving Daniel Island, members discuss potential annexation

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130910/PC16/130919871/1006/berkeley-sets-meetings-to-discuss-options-for-daniel-is-school-site>

Diette Courrege Casey

Berkeley County residents who are concerned about the location of the future school that will serve Daniel Island and the Clements Ferry Road area will be able to give their input later this month. The school district has planned two community meetings for Sept. 30 to discuss potential options for the school's site and for the process that will be used to choose the location. That issue has increasingly frustrated some Daniel Island residents to the point that they're discussing possibly seeking annexation into Charleston County.

National News:

McClatchy Washington Bureau: Obama puts off war vote in Congress to explore Russian-brokered deal

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/10/2971799/obama-welcomes-russias-syria-chemical.html#storylink=cpy>

Anita Kumar

President Barack Obama asked Congress on Tuesday to postpone a vote on airstrikes against Syria to allow time to explore a Russian proposal to get Syria to turn over its chemical weapons to international control. Obama made the dramatic last-minute turnaround in closed-door meetings with members of Congress and then in a prime time address to the nation, even as he was dispatching Secretary of State John Kerry to Geneva to meet with his Russian counterpart later this week. Their goal: a binding resolution in the United Nations Security Council, where Russia had threatened to veto any move against its ally in Syria.

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