

From: Symmes, Brian
To:
Date: 8/11/2013 9:57:41 AM
Subject: Clips - Sunday, August 11, 2013

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Spartanburg Herald-Journal: Haley focuses attention on Union during Saturday visit
<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20130810/ARTICLES/130819985/1083/ARTICLES?p=1&tc=pg>
Drew Brooks

Union County has its problems. Among them are South Carolina's sixth-highest unemployment rate and a population that is 20 percent below the poverty level. But Gov. Nikki Haley, visiting Saturday as part of a continuing initiative to target the state's challenged communities, said she saw hope for Union as hundreds gathered for an event that included free health screenings, a job fair and a baby shower for expectant mothers.

Note: "They will decide," Haley said. "Union County will tell us what they need." In the meantime, Haley said one key would be getting Union and other rural areas more involved in state government. "What we're seeing," the governor said, "is this is a rural area that truly just needs attention."

Photo gallery can be found at:

<http://www.goupstate.com/apps/pbcs.dll/gallery?template=gallery&show=all>

The State: The Buzz: Relax! The campaign's only beginning.
<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/10/2912509/the-buzz-relax-the-campaigns-only.html>
Jamie Self

Nancy Mace likely found the mantra – "Keep Calm and Primary On" useful last week as she was being grilled on radio and television after announcing her GOP primary challenge to U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham. While in the hot seat, the owner of a Charleston marketing and public relations firm had to answer for re-tweeting a supporter's tweet slurring the two-term Seneca Republican.

Note: Mace told Ingraham that she was paid for her work on the website with an ownership stake, rather than fees, but she was not responsible for its content. Then, she heaped praise on Haley, saying, "She's the first female governor of South Carolina. Why would I, as the first female graduate of the Citadel, ever go after her?"

A good man is hard to find: Columbia pro-life activist Steve Lefemine, director of the Columbia Christians for Life, has decided already that Mace shouldn't run. Both Bright and Cash are men, fitting God's plan for who should serve in political office, or so Lefemine argues.

Speak up and look into the camera: In asking DHEC chief Catherine Templeton whether she had enough money to pay for medical professionals at her agency, Bright launched into an outburst about how he has spent five years in the Senate listening to politicians lament the lack of public money to pay for things. And yet, Bright said, the state spends money on silly things and legislators waste time on politics.

The Guv's race and the TB outbreak: State Sen. Vincent Sheheen attempted to one-up Haley last week, sending her a letter detailing his visits to the families affected by the Greenwood County tuberculosis outbreak and asking her to create a "TB Crisis Controller," or a single point of contact for the families.

Note: In response, Haley's former spokesman Rob Godfrey – now a campaign adviser – criticized Sheheen for "ambulance chasing for victims whenever a problem arises in the state. If he could figure out a way to do it, he'd blame Nikki Haley for the weather being bad."

The State: Greenwood TB outbreak focuses attention on rare SC legislative oversight process
<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/11/2912504/greenwood-tb-outbreak-focuses.html>
Sammy Fretwell

Some S.C. legislators think they should hold more regular hearings with state agencies to expose problems and discuss how the Legislature can help resolve thorny issues that might otherwise be hidden from public view

Note: "Legislative hearings intended to inform the public and constructively look at how we, as a state, can do better are both important and very appropriate," Haley's spokesman, Doug Mayer, said in an email

Friday. "Legislative hearings intended to be self-serving, political side shows are nothing but a waste of taxpayer time and money. The governor favors the former."

Note: Mayer said testimony at Thursday's hearing reinforced assurances that DHEC took the proper action after "it became clear there were problems in the Greenwood investigation. As was made evident during the hearing, it's beyond time to end the political posturing and really focus on healing the families and children dealing with this medical issue."

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Florence Morning News: SC school choice plan not enough on the (long) road to reform

http://www.scnw.com/opinion/editorials/article_f7425df2-0207-11e3-a8e9-0019bb30f31a.html

Editorial

Most would be in agreement the state needs educational improvements and better achievement for our tax dollars. Those are basic and uncontroversial concepts, but the road to making those ideas a reality are anything but. After some staunch House resistance earlier this year, South Carolina became the 23rd state this summer to offer a private, school choice option, albeit in a very limited form. The program credits taxpayers 60 percent of their state tax liability when donating to nonprofits that distribute scholarships to special needs students.

Post and Courier: Hold off on Lindsey Graham's political obit

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130811/PC16/130819900/1005/hold-off-on-lindsey-graham-x2019-s-political-obit>

Brian Hicks

Rumors of Lindsey Graham's political demise have been, to paraphrase Mark Twain, greatly exaggerated. The esteemed political scientist Larry Sabato last week said Graham is perhaps the Republican U.S. senator most ripe for a primary upset. That's not the first time someone's said that. Hard-core conservatives — egged on by talk show hosts — have hated Graham for years. They claim he's not conservative, he talks to Democrats, he — gasp — supports amnesty for illegal immigrants.

Note: In the 2014 U.S. senate race, Mace is not likely to have the same perfect storm of luck that Haley did in her gubernatorial bid. Haley faced no incumbent, and her challengers were an old-time establishment candidate, a congressman who had raised the ire of the tea party and Lt. Gov. Speed Racer. Thanks to the Sanfords, Haley started with a decent war chest. And thanks to some nice donor, Haley got an endorsement from Sarah Palin when it meant something.

Greenville News (Guest Column): Response was quick to TB

http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130811/OPINION/308110011/Guest-column-Response-quick-TB?odyssey=mod%7Cnewswell%7Ctext%7COpinion%7Cp&nclink_check=1

Dr. Lisa Waddell

As the public health doctor in charge of Preventive Services at DHEC, it is important to me that you know you are safe. The TB outbreak in Greenwood County has been contained. Two people were found to be contagious, and both were isolated for treatment to avoid exposing others in the community.

The State (Guest Column): Unify school accountability systems

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/11/2910349/zais-unify-school-accountability.html>

Mick Zais

South Carolina has two systems for education accountability. One was developed in 2011 by the S.C. Department of Education and was approved by the U.S. Department of Education as meeting federal requirements. The other was developed in 2001 by the state's Education Oversight Committee. These dual systems are redundant, confusing and expensive.

Spartanburg Herald-Journal: Change the culture

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20130811/OPINION/308111011?p=1&tc=pg>

Editorial

Too little seems to have been accomplished when senators grilled the executive director of the state Department of Health and Environmental Control about the way it mishandled a tuberculosis outbreak in Ninety Six. Senators pursued their political agendas. Democratic senators took as many shots as they could at DHEC head Catherine Templeton, a close appointee of Republican Gov. Nikki Haley. And Republican senators criticized the partisanship.

Index-Journal: TB crisis controller a worthwhile idea

<http://www.indexjournal.com/main.asp?SectionID=8&SubSectionID=154&ArticleID=20170>

Editorial

While state Sen. Vincent Sheheen went a bit overboard in his reaction to the handling of the TB outbreak in Ninety Six, playing on people's emotions and seeking allies in what no doubt will be his upcoming challenge to take the governor's office from Nikki Haley, the Camden senator is right about one thing: The governor (or the state Department of Health and Environmental Control) should appoint a TB Crisis Controller. In fact, it would have been a good idea had DHEC's chief, Catherine Templeton, done that early on when the scope of this health crisis became so evident.

The State: Editorial: Columbia City Council should let the people decide on strong mayor

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/11/2910322/editorial-columbia-city-council.html>

Editorial

Let Columbia voters, who choose a mayor based on his vision and plans for improving the city, also decide whether they want that leader to be empowered to bring about the change they elect him to make.

The State: The science, and art, of grading schools

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/11/2910316/scope-the-science-and-art-of.html>

Cindi Ross Scope

Last year, Education Superintendent Mick Zais got permission from the federal government to eliminate the useless data — the all-or-nothing scores required by the federal No Child Left Behind law, which label a school a failure if just one of more than a dozen demographic subgroups falls short of that year's goal, by even a single point. But while he has replaced that with a much better system, the new system isn't perfect.

Post and Courier: How did transit plan go so wrong?

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130811/PC1002/130819911/1021/how-did-transit-plan-go-so-wrong>

Editorial

More than 15 years ago, planning began for an Intermodal Transportation Center that would, among other things, allow Amtrak to leave its outmoded station in North Charleston. Now the push is to upgrade the old train station site for that purpose, despite having spent \$10 million on the ITC property on Montague Avenue. Apparently, there's no way the 36-acre site can be developed as intended because of a fundamental conflict with Amtrak and CSX rail that would cost a staggering \$25 million to fix.

Times and Democrat: Consult does not mean inform after VP hiring

http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/editorial/consult-does-not-mean-inform-after-vp-hiring/article_6c5bb414-0166-11e3-8189-001a4bcf887a.html

Editorial

THE ISSUE: S.C. State president and board; OUR OPINION: University trustees right to expect discussion with president before VPs are introduced. South Carolina State University trustees and the school's new president, Thomas Elzey, are debating what role the board should play in the hiring of key administration officials such as vice presidents. Some things don't change. Put different names and dates into the story and it might well have been written anytime over the past decade.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Confederate flag controversy and NAACP boycott resurface amid talk of football bowl game in Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130810/PC16/130819917/1009/confederate-flag-controversy-and-naacp-boycott-resurface-amid-talk-of-football-bowl-game-in-charleston&source=RSS>

David Slade and Jeff Hartsell

The battle flag was raised again as an economic issue in South Carolina on Friday, when organizers of a proposed college football bowl game in Charleston held a meeting of community leaders to pitch the idea. The new Legends Bowl (the name is subject to change) would be held starting in December 2014 at The Citadel's Johnson Hagood Stadium. It would pit teams from the Sun Belt and Mid-American conferences and bring an estimated annual economic impact of about \$6 million to the Lowcountry.

Note: "The flag compromise that occurred over a decade ago addressed a very sensitive subject in a way that the majority of South Carolina could accept," said Doug Mayer, Haley's spokesman. "Outside groups are free to voice their concerns and problems with it, but revisiting this issue is not part of the governor's

agenda.”

Florence Morning News: HPV vaccination numbers stall nationwide

http://www.scnw.com/news/local/article_fb129158-021c-11e3-96ff-0019bb30f31a.html

Gavin Jackson

A vaccine that prevents one of the most common forms of cancer in women is seeing its rates among teenage girls stagnate nationwide, according to a recent report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Note: In 2012 Gov. Nikki Haley vetoed a bill proposed by State Rep. Bakari Sellers, D-Bamberg, to provide information and the vaccine free to seventh graders calling it “superfluous” and “a precursor to another taxpayer-funded health care mandate” in her veto statement last June.

Post and Courier: College of Charleston, MUSC merger talks accelerate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130810/PC16/130819904/1006/header-header-header-c-of-c-musc-merger-talks-accelerate>

Diane Knich and Lauren Sausser

While a push is on in political, economic and educational circles to build a research university in Charleston by merging the College of Charleston and the Medical University of South Carolina, there’s still one small problem — MUSC still needs convincing. Informal discussions on merging the two schools have been taking place for years, but the movement has gained steam in recent months.

Post and Courier: DOT Commission to consider \$4 billion in highway improvements

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130811/PC16/130819915/1006/>

Prentiss Findlay

Every year, the South Carolina economy loses millions of dollars because of delays caused by traffic congestion, and the problem is expected to grow with the population, which is estimated to rise by 30 percent in the next three decades, according to highway planners. Key to addressing the situation are planned interstate upgrades that are laid-out in a draft copy of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. On Thursday, the state Department of Transportation Commission considers approval of a new STIP that describes how \$4 billion in state and federal funds will be spent on roads during the next six years.

Washington Bureau: Food stamps may face deep cuts

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013308100014>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

South Carolina is among the states with the largest share of its residents receiving food stamps, so it has a lot at stake as Congress debates how much benefits should be curtailed in the face of record federal debt. In June, 871,501 people in the state — almost one in five — received \$114.6 million worth of aid to buy food, according to the South Carolina Department of Social Services. Nationally, in 2012-13, the federal government spent about \$75 billion helping almost 47 million Americans buy food, or about 15 percent of the population.

Index-Journal: TB looms at health fair

Re-screenings draw hundreds to Ninety Six Depot

<http://www.indexjournal.com/main.asp?SectionID=4&SubSectionID=40&ArticleID=20176>

Frank Bumb

Billing it as a winding down of the tuberculosis (TB) outbreak that gripped Ninety Six, the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) hosted a health fair Saturday morning at the Ninety Six Historic Train Depot. The fair's primary purpose was to provide follow-up screening for the TB germ.

Greenville News: Increase in child sexual abuse cases in Upstate a big worry

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/10/2912149/increase-in-child-sexual-abuse.html>

David Dykes

The case is one of a dismaying 250 involving criminal sexual conduct with children that 13th Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins confronts at any time. That is up about 30 percent from several years ago, said Wilkins, whose office covers Greenville and Pickens counties. Since cases involving allegations of sexual abuse of children are more likely to go to trial, it taxes available legal resources, Wilkins said.

Note: Last month, Gov. Nikki Haley recounted how she was physically abused as a girl by a child-care provider. It offered a rare, personal disclosure that she said was meant to underscore the challenge any city or town faces in protecting its children. "It doesn't matter your background, it doesn't matter your education,

it doesn't matter the wealth of your family," Haley said. "Every child is subject to child abuse."

Post and Courier: Lindsey Graham's primary challenge: Surviving next year's primary

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130811/PC16/130819905/1006/three-republicans-and-counting-vying-against-graham>

Robert Behre and Schuyler Kropf

Is Lindsey Graham vulnerable? Three Republican candidates already have announced they are gunning for South Carolina's senior senator when he seeks re-election next year. And if they can force him into a runoff next June, that could pose problems for the state's most visible political figure.

Post and Courier: Democrats to pick Senate 42 nominee Tuesday

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130811/PC16/130819896/1005/dems-to-pick-senate-42-nominee-tues>

Robert Behre

Democratic voters in Senate District 42 will go to the polls Tuesday to choose among six candidates hoping to fill the seat formerly held by Robert Ford. The hopefuls include Charleston lawyer Emmanuel Ferguson, retired jobs counselor Herbert S. Fielding, Charleston lawyer Marlon Kimpson, North Charleston businesswoman Margaret Rush, contractor Bob Thompson and former North Charleston City Councilman Maurice Washington.

Post and Courier: Brown, birth father of Veronica, wanted for arrest by Charleston County sheriff

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130810/PC16/130819920/1006/warrant-for-veronica-x2019-s-birth-father>

Andrew Knapp

The birth father of 3-year-old Veronica is expected to be arrested Sunday after Charleston authorities issued a warrant for his arrest, a move that the Iraq war veteran's supporters deemed morally and legally suspect as he completes military training. Dusten Brown, 31, of Nowata, Okla., is wanted by the Charleston County Sheriff's Office on a charge of custodial interference after he failed to show up for an Aug. 4 visitation with the James Island couple who adopted Veronica.

Local News:

The State: Being Homeless In Columbia Could Get You Arrested

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=w2xgPiBB

Clif LeBlanc

Homelessness soon could get you arrested in downtown Columbia under a tough-love plan from a city councilman that's gaining steam. Vagrancy laws would be enforced. The city would post more police officers on key downtown streets to warn against loitering, public urination and other nuisance violations. And at least one police officer would be posted at a key access road to the city's riverfront winter shelter to make sure the homeless do not meander toward the city center.

Anderson Independent: Volunteers clear possible puppy mill in Anderson County

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/aug/10/volunteers-clear-possible-puppy-mill-no-decision/>

Michael Eads

Dozens of volunteers, first responders and Anderson County workers spent Saturday clearing the site of a possible puppy mill near Starr and transferring roughly 200 dogs to their new, temporary home. "We're still evaluating them, but most seem to be in pretty good shape," Anderson County Sheriff John Skipper said late Saturday afternoon. "We've got the old (Anderson County animal) shelter opened, and that's working pretty well. There's doctors over there giving them shots and evaluating them." The work progressed steadily throughout the day, with just 40 or so dogs left to be moved by 4 p.m.

Anderson Independent: Anderson City Council to vote on contractor for Westside Cemetery expansion

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/aug/10/anderson-city-council-to-vote-on-contractor-for/>

Charmaine Smith-Miles

The Anderson City Council plans to consider six bids for a contract to expand the Westview Cemetery. The cemetery covers nearly 23 acres of property on Sayre Street southwest of downtown Anderson. So far, about 17 acres have been developed, and all but two plots have been sold. The planned expansion would add about 2,551 graves to the cemetery. The plan, as developed earlier this year, was to construct the project in three phases. The initial estimated cost to expand, using city equipment and workers, was

\$315,000, according to the agenda for the council meeting Monday.

Post and Courier: Seafarers' Society receives windfall from merchant ship

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130811/PC16/130819916/1005/seafarers-x2019-society-receives-windfall-from-merchant-ship>

Brenda Rindge

The Charleston Port and Seafarers' Society got a surprise on Friday when Chaplain Len Williams received a priority mail envelope with a handwritten note and \$2,500 cash. The donation came from the crew of the merchant ship APL Jackson, which was recently sold for scrap. The crew voted unanimously to donate the balance of its discretionary fund to the Seafarer's Ministry because they felt Charleston was "the friendliest and most helpful port in the whole world," according to the note.

National News:

Associated Press: Cruz again raps Obama's health care law

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_289563/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=7A45GhKd

Catherine Lucey

Sen. Ted Cruz on Saturday continued his call for cutting off funding for President Barack Obama's health care law and told conservative Christians that congressional lawmakers can't be counted on to do it. The Texas Republican, a tea-party favorite and a possible presidential candidate in 2016, drew a standing ovation at the Family Leadership Summit with his denouncement of the health care initiative labeled "Obamacare" by its critics.

Associated Press: Virginia, NYC races pose distractions for Clinton

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_289563/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=M75km03o

Ken Thomas

Hillary Rodham Clinton's effort to carefully craft her post-Cabinet image has hit a few bumps. A sexting scandal in the New York City mayoral race and a federal investigation that's roiling the Virginia governor's race are recalling politically problematic chapters of her past.

Brian Symmes

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