

From: Symmes, Brian  
To:  
Date: 8/18/2013 9:58:56 AM  
Subject: Clips - Sunday, August 18, 2013

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## Clips – Sunday, August 18, 2013

### Governor Nikki Haley News:

**The Patch:** SC Aviation Week is August 19-23

<http://easley.patch.com/groups/business-news/p/sc-aviation-week-is-august-1923>

Jason Evans

South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley proclaimed August 19 – August 23, 2013 as South Carolina Aviation Week. The South Carolina Aeronautics Commission (SCAC) has partnered with the South Carolina Aviation Association (SCAA) to develop a week that promotes, educates and celebrates the aviation industry in South Carolina. “South Carolina’s airport system plays a vital role in the state’s transportation network and economy,” said SCAC’s Executive Director, Paul Werts. “Not only does Aeronautics support the development and maintenance of our local airports, but we try to promote and foster aviation education and connections to the workforce through economic development.”

**The State:** The Buzz: Haley’s backers on the move

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/17/2926275/the-buzz-haleys-backers-on-the.html>

Andrew Shain

Gov. Nikki Haley’s friends have been busy this year. A political organization run by Haley supporters raised \$570,000 during the first half of this year – and spent all but \$122,000 to aid the Republican governor’s work, according to an IRS filing. The Movement Fund received contributions this year from: New Jersey health care mogul Vivek Garipalli, \$300,000; Florida pharmaceutical entrepreneur Raj Mantena, \$200,000; Texas investor Harold Simmons, \$50,000; and Ohio charter school firm Altair Learning Management, \$20,000. Mantena contributed \$100,000 to the fund last year.

**Heres to your health:** State Republicans staged a news conference this week to complain about the impact of Obamacare on small business, but they might not have picked the best business as an example. Fred Price, owner of Ace Glass, says he has about 45 employees. The Obamacare requirements for small businesses, which have been delayed until 2015, include penalties for companies with more than 50 employees who don’t provide affordable health insurance to their employees.

**‘Schooled in the schoolyard:** Supporters of Republican Mick Zais, state Superintendent of Education, showed up Thursday at Hand Middle School in Columbia as state House Democrat “Coach” Mike Anthony announced that he’s running for the state’s top education post.

### Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

**The State:** Let the Columbia petition drive begin for strong mayor

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/18/2924188/editorial-let-the-columbia-petition.html#storylink=cpy>

Editorial

The majority of Columbia City Council members who imposed their own will in denying voters an opportunity to decide whether the mayor should be the city’s full-time chief executive failed to address the most important question: What is the people’s will? That’s too important a question to leave unanswered. Fortunately, there are leaders in this community who understand that and intend to gather enough voters’ signatures to force the council to place the matter on the ballot. It is not only appropriate but necessary to finally give voters an opportunity to decide.

**Washington Post:** Can Obama write his own laws?

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/18/2924181/krauthammer-can-obama-write-his.html>

Charles Krauthammer

That was then. On Monday, Attorney General Eric Holder, a liberal in a hurry, ordered all U.S. attorneys to simply stop charging nonviolent, non-gang-related drug defendants with crimes that, while fitting the offense, carry mandatory sentences. Find some lesser, non-triggering charge. How might you do that? Withhold

evidence — e.g., about the amount of dope involved. In other words, evade the law, by deceiving the court if necessary. “If the companies that I represent in federal criminal cases” did that, said former Deputy Attorney General George Terwilliger, “they could be charged with a felony.”

**Greenville News (Guest Column):** Higher ed should lobby for impact, not dollars

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130818/OPINION/308180012/Guest-column-Higher-ed-should-lobby-impact-not-dollars?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|Opinion|p>

Jayne Marie Comstock (Winthrop President)

Those of us in higher education celebrate the New Year in August. Today, on the eve of Winthrop's Convocation ceremony that heralds the academic New Year, I encourage my colleagues to renew our resolution to ensure that the education we deliver is valuable for our students and our society. In recent weeks, I've been asked frequently to comment on the cost of higher education. Of course, I try to turn that conversation into a discussion about the value of higher education, rather than the cost. But, before I make the cost-value flip, I take advantage of the opportunity to explain that there is a direct, inverse relationship between the cost of tuition and fees at public colleges within a state and the funding that state provides to its public colleges and universities.

**The State (Guest Column):** Lourie, Hutto: Too many questions remain about TB response

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/18/2924177/lourie-hutto-too-many-questions.html#storylink=cpy>

Joel Lourie and Brad Hutto

As members of the Senate Medical Affairs Committee that recently held a five-hour meeting to learn what went wrong with the DHEC investigation of the tuberculosis outbreak in Greenwood County, we have had the opportunity to review hundreds of pages of agency emails, DHEC procedures, news articles and letters from current and former DHEC employees. In addition, we have spoken at length with the attorneys representing the families of the children infected and also counsel for the terminated DHEC nurses.

**Post and Courier:** Confederate flag flap goes on

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130818/PC1002/130819413/1021/>

Editorial

Columnist Frank Wooten claims to be among the “growing number” of state residents opposed to the Confederate flag's “divisiveness.” What divisiveness? I see more people at odds over bicycle lanes than the flag. And what growing number, other than a small nucleus of always-adversarial “community leaders,” a few die-hard Confederaphobes on The Post and Courier staff, and a handful of transplants from up North who never run out of ways to show us how superior they are?

**Post and Courier:** Stop drivers from texting

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130818/PC1002/130819410/1021/stop-drivers-from-texting>

Editorial

Texting while driving is one of the most dangerous activities on the road, as dangerous as driving drunk. But that hasn't stopped its growing use by irresponsible motorists. That's why a growing number of states have joined in banning texting behind the wheel. At last count, 41 states have done so. Unfortunately, South Carolina isn't among them, thanks to legislators who are somehow convinced that a ban would be an intrusion into the personal freedom of motorists.

**Post and Courier:** The NSA's privacy fiasco

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130818/PC1002/130819411/1021/>

Editorial

Faced with the likelihood that Congress will curb the power of the National Security Agency bulk collection of Americans' phone records next year, President Barack Obama recently announced a series of measures designed to save that and other NSA surveillance programs. He should have saved his breath. After five years of resisting any national discussion of NSA collections policies, the president called for “an open debate” on the programs and promised more “transparency” in their administration.

**Index-Journal:** Sheriff's office spending is very peculiar indeed

<http://www.indexjournal.com/main.asp?SectionID=8&SubSectionID=154&ArticleID=20295>

Editorial

Greenwood County Council had its “peculiar funds,” dollars its members could dip into and spend essentially as they saw fit for whatever they loosely deemed was for the overall good of the county. It would appear the Greenwood County Sheriff's Office has some rather peculiar - unusual is the label we chose in

our stories - spending habits itself. In fact, what we have uncovered thus far would indicate the sheriff's office's spending habits are far more peculiar and certainly more lavish than those of current and former county council members. For any first-time readers, a quick bit of perspective and history is in order. In February, Sheriff Tony Davis fired Sandi McAlister-Owens from her post as the sheriff's office administrative assistant. Her firing came as Davis requested an investigation of his office's finances be conducted by South Carolina Law Enforcement Division for the four-year period McAlister-Owens was employed.

## **South Carolina News:**

**The State:** Marchers to SC statehouse demand bond reform for violent crimes

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/17/2925787/marchers-to-sc-statehouse-demand.html#storylink=cpy>

Noelle Philips

A photo on the back of the T-shirts said it all Saturday morning at a State House rally to demand reform in the criminal justice system. "No bonds for criminal violence" was the slogan paired with a picture of four children whose mother died violently July 1 while working alone in a commercial bakery. The shirts were worn by the nearly 15 family members of Kelly Hunnewell, whose death inspired rally participants to demand change in perceived problems in the judicial system, including how suspects are given bond.

**Post and Courier:** To Oklahoma's American Indian tribes, Veronica is a battle cry for cultures

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130817/PC16/130819408/1006/veronica-a-battle-cry-for-cultures>

Andrew Knapp

Schoolchildren filled a dimly lit room. Government agents banged on the door and rushed in. The children were rounded up. They were plucked from their families, their customs. Their hair was cut. They were placed in new homes or sent to boarding schools meant to assimilate them into a less savage culture. It's a story widely told in Oklahoma's Indian Country. A museum exhibit in Tahlequah, the Cherokee Nation's capital, once re-created that fear of being taken.

**Post and Courier:** The real reason Sen. Paul Campbell is the airport's new executive director <http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130818/PC16/130819401/1006/the-real-reason-sen-paul-campbell-is-the-airport-x2019-s-new-executive-director>

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130818/PC16/130819401/1006/the-real-reason-sen-paul-campbell-is-the-airport-x2019-s-new-executive-director>

Brian Hicks

A lot of people say state lawmakers have too much control over the airport, so what does the board do — hire a legislator to run the place. Makes perfect sense. Last month, Sue Stevens resigned as executive director of the Charleston International Airport, citing a hostile working environment. The trouble was legislative meddling. See, the Charleston County legislative delegation, which is made up of the 22 state lawmakers who represent parts of the county, appoints nearly half of the 13 members of the Aviation Authority board.

**Greenville News:** Damages caused by S.C. rains mount

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130818/NEWS/308180001/Damages-caused-by-S-C-rains-mount>

Tim Smith

This summer's rains are causing havoc for the state's roads and bridges. In little more than a month, rains have caused damage to 131 routes in South Carolina at a cost of more than \$4 million, state transportation officials told GreenvilleOnline.com. And that was before Friday's storms hit. The Department of Transportation engineering district around Greenville County has racked up the most damages in the past month, officials say, with almost \$2.5 million in costs, most of that from a Pickens County bridge along S-160 that has been closed and will need \$1.8 million in repairs.

**Greenville News:** Zais, educators remain at odds

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130818/NEWS/308180014/Zais-educators-remain-odds>

Ron Barnett

Nobody expected a conventional management style when they elected a retired brigadier general as state superintendent of education. A reform-minded outsider to the public school system is what they got in Republican Mick Zais. He wasn't liked by many in the education establishment when he ran in 2010, and the relationship has only grown more strained. Zais has been at odds with statewide education advocacy groups over such issues as a new teacher evaluation system, how to address changes in the federal accountability system and curriculum. He chalks that up to entrenched resistance to change.

**Index-Journal:** Infectious teacher was at Ninety Six school

<http://www.indexjournal.com/main.asp?SectionID=4&SubSectionID=40&ArticleID=20283>

Scott J. Bryan

A few weeks ago, Dr. Richard Ervin, an infectious disease specialist coordinating the state Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) investigation of tuberculosis at Ninety Six Primary School, said the contagious disease's threat disappeared the moment the initial patient - the "index patient" widely reported to be a school janitor - was removed from the school March 8. According to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report, that might not have been totally accurate. The report - released last week on DHEC's website and delivered to state senators during a hearing Aug. 8 - suggested a second contagious patient, a 43-year-old second-grade teacher at the school, could have spread the airborne disease as early as Jan. 1.

**Spartanburg Herald Journal:** Prescription pain: Program could potentially cut overdose deaths

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20130817/ARTICLES/130819679/1083/ARTICLES?Title=Prescription-pain-Program-could-potentially-cut-overdose-deaths>

Dustin Wyatt

Deaths from prescription drug overdoses in South Carolina have more than doubled over the past decade, but most doctors in Spartanburg are not using a statewide program that could potentially save lives. The South Carolina Prescription Monitoring Program, called SCRIPTS, is operated by the state Department of Health and Environmental Control's Bureau of Drug Control. It's purpose is to help identify patients who go from doctor to doctor seeking duplicate prescriptions for drugs. Only 19 percent of physicians in Spartanburg County are registered for the program, the Herald-Journal found.

**Post and Courier:** Loftis to attend town hall meeting at Hanahan's amphitheater

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130817/PC16/130819425/1006/loftis-to-attend-hanahan-town-hall-meeting>

South Carolina State Treasurer Curtis Loftis Jr., is expected to attend a town hall meeting at Hanahan's new amphitheater at 8:30 a.m. Monday. Loftis, who recently announced he is seeking re-election, will be joined by Hanahan City Council members and other elected officials at the amphitheater at 3102 Mabeline Road.

**Aiken Standard:** Student-teacher ratios are not arbitrary

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130818/AIK0101/130819453/1004/student-teacher-ratios-are-not-arbitrary>

Rob Novit

When Aiken County School District students arrive for their first day on Monday, their classrooms will follow a district formula for class size, but with some flexibility that is always needed. The student-teacher ratios are not arbitrary. The State Department of Education sets guidelines, but the Aiken school system, by choice, establishes its own with fewer students per class. Parents and other community residents may not realize that the ratios are not just fluid. Those numbers and a school's enrollment can collide with each other. Schools are not just one big group of children or teenagers. They have multiple grade levels and in middle and high schools, they have classrooms with a wide range of content areas. Those factors can impact the number of teachers at a given school, as well the actual size of their classes.

**Aiken Standard:** Coast Guard coordinating clean-up of fuel spill

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130818/AIK0105/130819476/1015/AIK0105/coast-guard-coordinating-clean-up-of-fuel-spill>

Authorities are cleaning up diesel fuel that spilled from two fishing boats near Hilton Head Island. The Coast Guard said its Charleston command center was notified on Friday about a fuel sheen spotted in the Jarvis Creek area. Members of the Coast Guard from Charleston and Savannah, Ga., responded. They determined the pollution came from two grounded commercial fishing boats named the Lady Essie and Diane. They believe the vessels hold a combined 1,300 gallons of fuel. It's unknown how much fuel spilled into the water.

**Aiken Standard:** Chickens are critical for the economy in S.C.

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130818/AIK0101/130819458/1007/AIK0101/chickens-are-critical-for-the-economy-in-sc>

Maayan Schechter

Within the South Carolina farming industry, the poultry business is the cluck of the town. "South Carolina has become the 9th largest broiler chicken producing state," said Tom Super, vice president of communications at the National Chicken Council. "And I know this because (of) the amount of corn going to

ethanol.” The broiler chicken industry in South Carolina produced over \$690 million and is the highest agriculture commodity in the state. The state averages about 235 million broilers in production each year, averaging about 1.5 billion pounds, according to S.C. Poultry Organization.

**The State:** School snack regulations nothing new in SC

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/18/2925808/school-snack-regulations-nothing.html#storylink=cpy>

Joey Holleman

Local schools say the new federal Smart Snacks in Schools guidelines will have minimal impact on their operations when they re-open this week. Most were out in front in the effort to improve the content of school food. “We’re actually a year ahead of the new standards,” said Todd Bedenbaugh, student nutrition director for Lexington/Richland District 5. “We serve only healthy snacks in our vending machines – water, flavored water and 100 percent juice – and have implemented that for some time now.” The U.S. Department of Agriculture came out with the Smart Snack guidelines in July, calling for school cafeterias and vending machines to offer more of the good-for-you foods with whole grains, low fat dairy products, fruits, vegetables and lean protein. Out is the bad stuff high in fat, sugar and sodium. Also, portion size is to be based on age-group.

**Post and Courier:** Data shows DHEC employs too few health inspectors for Lowcountry restaurants

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130817/PC16/130819467/1006/xxxxxx-asdf-sdf-asdfsdf-dfsdfsdfsdfs-dfsdfsdfsdfsdfsdfsd-fdfdfdfdfdfdfdfdf-dhec-employs-too-few-health-inspectors-for-lowcountry-restaurants-by>

Lauren Sausser

Strawberries are the most popular frozen yogurt topping at Sweet Cece’s on Market Street, and manager Ken Calabro and his staff handle up to 16 pounds of them a day with the precision of surgeons. Calabro snaps on a new pair of latex gloves. He picks off the green stems, washes the berries in a sink used exclusively for produce and stores them in a stainless steel box. Every surface the sliced fruit touches is sterile. The kitchen, smelling faintly of fresh waffle cones, is pristine. Sweet Cece’s earned 99 out of 100 possible points during its most recent health department inspection this spring.

## Local News:

**The State:** Columbia homelessness plan draws heated criticism, threat of lawsuits

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/17/2926212/columbia-homeless-plan-draws-heated.html#storylink=cpy>

Clif LeBlanc

Tempers are flaring as groups prepare to contest Columbia’s plan to remove homeless people from the city center, arguing it violates their constitutional rights. Civil libertarians say the plan that City Council adopted unanimously last week violates their protections of equal treatment under the law and their freedom of assembly. “There’s going to be a fistfight,” said attorney Tom Turnipseed, who for more than a decade has been involved in providing Sunday meals at Finlay Park through the Food Not Bombs program. He said Friday a federal lawsuit will be filed and he expects that the city’s Appleseed Legal Justice Center and the state chapter of the ACLU will at least help if not join the suit.

**Anderson Independent:** AnMed officials say they corrected shortcomings related to medical records access

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/aug/17/anmed-officials-say-they-corrected-shortcomings/>

Kirk Brown

AnMed Health officials say they have corrected shortcomings found earlier this year in an investigation into the improper accessing of a patient’s medical records. An investigation conducted in April by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights in Atlanta determined that AnMed had violated a federal privacy rule. The violation stemmed from AnMed’s initial refusal to identify a nurse who looked at patient Jeremy Brown’s records after she was told not to be involved in his care.

**Florence Morning News:** Pee Dee real estate market moving forward

[http://www.scnow.com/living/real\\_estate/article\\_d83a0ce6-0781-11e3-9ee5-001a4bcf6878.html](http://www.scnow.com/living/real_estate/article_d83a0ce6-0781-11e3-9ee5-001a4bcf6878.html)

Gavin Jackson

An increase in new home listings and housing inventory kept momentum moving forward in the Florence and Greater Pee Dee real estate markets in July despite falling median prices. In July the Florence market saw homes sit on the market for about a month longer than in June but listings surged to 157 listings as inventory reached 799 — the highest level of the year for both numbers.

**The State:** Plea deal for Gabrielle's killer followed long, frustrating negotiations

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/17/2926202/plea-deal-for-gabrielles-killer.html#storylink=cpy>

Noelle Phillips

At its worst, the deal gave a man a minimum sentence for a heinous crime. At its best, it ended a 357-day search for a beloved Northeast Richland teenager. The plea deal that gave Freddie Grant a 30-year prison sentence for kidnapping and killing 15-year-old Gabrielle Swainson has triggered a mix of outrage and understanding in the community. Grant, 53, was sentenced Wednesday under a negotiated deal after he led investigators to the wooded area where he had buried the teen. Anger over the deal comes from those already upset over problems they see in the criminal justice system that allows repeat offenders back on the streets with low jail bonds and light sentences.

**Post and Courier:** Lowcountry Open Land Trust so far has raised a third of the \$1.2 million needed to expand Angel Oak Park

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130817/PC16/130819422/1006/open-land-trust-has-raised-a-third-of-12-million-needed-to-expand-angel-oak-park>

Diane Knich

The Lowcountry Open Land Trust has a long way to go to raise \$1.2 million to expand Angel Oak Park, but local groups are stepping in to help. The trust last month launched the campaign with a goal to raise the final portion of money to buy 17 acres to expand the park around the historic tree on Johns Island. So far it has brought in \$400,000, or about a third of the amount it needs to raise by Sept. 30.

## **National News:**

**Associated Press:** N.C. files more lawsuits against Duke Energy

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/08/17/5124428/nc-files-more-lawsuits-against.html#storylink=cpy>

The state of North Carolina has filed additional lawsuits against Duke Energy seeking to force the utility to address water pollution coming from coal ash at 12 power plants. The state Department of Environment and Natural Resources filed two lawsuits Friday in Wake and Mecklenburg counties that expand the state's litigation to all 14 of Duke's coal-fired plants in North Carolina. The state says water monitoring at the 12 additional plants showed chemical levels that exceed safety standards, and that inspectors have seen liquid seepage from ash ponds that permits don't allow.

**Post and Courier:** Potential 2016 presidential candidates start their checklists

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130818/PC1603/130819402/1031/potential-2016-presidential-candidates-start-their-checklists>

Calvin Woodward

Get your face on TV and write a book: Check. Start meeting the big money people: Check. Visit Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina — Israel, too: Check. Deny any of this has to do with running for president: Check. For politicians planning or tempted to run for the presidency in 2016, the to-do list is formidable. What's striking is how methodically most of them are plowing through it while they pretend nothing of the sort is going on. Somehow, it has been decreed that politicians who fancy themselves presidential timber must wear a veil concealing the nakedness of their ambition. They must let the contours show through, however — more and more over time — while hoping everyone doesn't tire of the tease.

**New York Times:** Christie's Re-election Engine Gets in Gear for a Bigger Race

<http://mobile.nytimes.com/2013/08/18/nyregion/christies-re-election-engine-gets-in-gear-for-a-bigger-race.html?smid=tw-share&>

Jonathan Martin

He has hired specialists in microtargeting who worked for the presidential campaigns of Mitt Romney and George W. Bush. He has built a sprawling, 50-state fund-raising network, including major Republican players like Harold Simmons, the billionaire backer of a Karl Rove-led "super PAC" that spent \$105 million in the 2012 race. And he is pouring resources into an effort to attract blacks, Hispanics and women to prove that he is a new kind of Republican.

**Politico:** NSA questions hitting lawmakers on the home front

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/08/nsa-questions-hitting-lawmakers-on-the-home-front-95612.html?hp=l2>

Tony Romm

Rep. Mike Fitzpatrick has spent many summers here on his home turf blasting big government, big taxes,

big Washington — but recently he's added another item to his list: Big Brother. Even during his speeches on jobs, health care and the economy, the Republican congressman said he has started fielding a few questions about privacy, spying and surveillance, a sign that fears about the ultra-secret National Security Agency have spread beyond the Beltway as lawmakers embark on their annual town-hall tours.

**The Hill:** Booker follows in Obama's footsteps

<http://thehill.com/blogs/ballot-box/senate-races/317393-booker-follows-in-obamas-footsteps>

Alexandra Jaffe

Cory Booker's huge victory in New Jersey's Senate Democratic primary underlines expectations that the Newark mayor will follow President Obama as his party's next big star. Comparisons between the two African-American politicians aren't new, but ignore the fact that Booker is a different kind of politician than Obama — even though he is following a similar trail blazed by the nation's first black president.

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