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Subject: Afternoon Clips - Tuesday, September 3, 2013

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## Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, September 3, 2013

### Governor Nikki Haley News:

**Greenville News:** 2AM Group investment forecast to create 100 new jobs in Richland County

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130903/BUSINESS/309030033/2AM-Group-investment-forecast-create-100-new-jobs-Richland-County>

A Spartanburg-based company that supplies logistics, manufacturing and quality services to the automotive, aerospace and marine industries is creating a new production facility in Richland County, the governor's office announced this morning. 2AM's Blythewood facility will be the company's 11th overall location and the fifth in the state. Operations at the new facility, located at 110 Belk Court in Blythewood, began mid-August.

**Note:** 2AM Group is investing \$500,000 in the facility and will generate 100 new jobs over the next three years, according to Gov. Nikki Haley's office.

**Note:** Since January 2011, South Carolina has recruited more than \$9 billion in capital investment and more than 26,000 jobs in the manufacturing sector, Haley's office says.

**The State:** Same-sex Marriage Suit: Haley Likely To Defend SC Marriage Law

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/03/2958262/same-sex-marriage-suit-haley-likely.html>

John Monk

Gov. Nikki Haley likely will mount a defense in federal court against a challenge by two Lexington County women to the state's 1996 Defense of Marriage Law and a section of the State Constitution that bans gay marriages in South Carolina. A spokesman for state Attorney General Alan Wilson – the other defendant named in a just-filed potentially historic lawsuit challenging state bans on gay and lesbian marriage – said Tuesday that Wilson has no immediate comment.

**Note:** "Gov. Haley, like the majority of South Carolinians, supports traditional marriage as defined between one man and one woman, and in accordance with state law, will continue to uphold those values. The legislature has spoken on this issue, the people have spoken on this issue, and the governor remains resolute in her support of South Carolina's Constitution and state's rights and this lawsuit doesn't change that," said Haley spokesman Doug Mayer in an email Tuesday.

**Associated Press:** MUSC to test out new health program for employees

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=IVbJtyHV](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=IVbJtyHV)

Meg Kinnard

The Medical University of South Carolina is getting the chance to try out a new way of providing health care for its employees, in an experiment that could pave the way for changes for all state employees. On Tuesday, the Budget and Control Board approved the school's proposal for a one-year pilot program, which would create a "patient-centered medical home" for the university's 18,000 employees. Workers and their families would get health care through a more centralized system, with case managers helping ensure they get the most effective, efficient care. Employees would be able to pick from MUSC's primary care doctors, all of whom have been certified to provide that level of care, according to MUSC chief executive officer Pat Cawley.

**Note:** "Primary care is very important. Preventative care is very important," Gov. Nikki Haley, who chairs the Budget and Control Board, said. "If you focus in on those two, it should be very effective."

**The Foundry:** 3 Reasons These 3 Governors Want to #StopObamacare

<http://blog.heritage.org/2013/09/03/3-reasons-these-3-governors-want-to-stopobamacare/>

Kelsey Harris

People everywhere are buzzing about Obamacare and with exchanges opening in just 27 days, opponents of the massive bill are doing everything they can to make sure Americans know why and how Congress can stop Obamacare. Republican lawmakers like Senators Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Mike Lee (R-UT) spent their August recess staying vocal about why they think defunding Obamacare is the best way to stop it. Heritage

President Jim DeMint visited nine cities across the country during a Defund Obamacare town hall tour to make sure people were informed about the ways Obamacare is unaffordable, unworkable, and unfair.

## **2014 Campaign Cycle News:**

**Associated Press:** Southern Democrats campaign as 'problem solvers'

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/09/03/5172242/southern-democrats-campaign-as.html>

Bill Barrow

As Democrats try to curtail GOP dominance in the South, the party's top recruits for 2014 elections are trying to sell themselves as problem solvers above Washington's partisan gridlock. They're casting the Republicans' anti-government mantra and emphasis on social issues like abortion and gay marriage as ideological obstacles to progress on "bread-and-butter" issues like public education, infrastructure and health care. That goes beyond their usual effort to distance themselves from President Barack Obama and national Democrats, and it's the closest thing the Democratic Party has to a unified strategy in the region beyond simply waiting for demographics to shift in the long term to ensure they can compete with Republicans.

## **Opinion / Editorial Roundup:**

**The State:** Focus on retaining knowledge, not kids

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/03/2951878/scoppe-focus-on-retaining-knowledge.html>

Cindi Scoppe

Education Superintendent Mick Zais is starting to sound like a broken record. With each new round of test-score rollouts — and there seem to be as many of them this time of year as there are tailgaters on a Saturday afternoon in September — he reminds us again how essential it is that kids learn to read, and he calls again on the Legislature to pass his plan to hold back kids who aren't reading on grade level by the end of the third grade. And he's absolutely right when he says that kids who can't read by third grade are doomed to failure because from there on out, they have to be able to read in order to learn anything else. He's absolutely right when he says these are the kids who drop out of high school. He's absolutely right when he says we can't just keep letting kids slide through from grade to grade without teaching them to read.

## **Baby Veronica News:**

**Associated Press:** OK Supreme Court issues stay in custody case

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=xIIA2FFx](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=xIIA2FFx)

Kristi Eaton

The Oklahoma Supreme Court has granted an emergency stay to keep a 3-year-old Cherokee girl with her biological father and plans to hear arguments from his lawyers and those of the girl's adoptive parents later Tuesday. The court granted the stay Friday, although it only became public on the court's website Tuesday. Three-year-old Veronica's birth mother was pregnant when she put the girl up for adoption. A South Carolina couple, Matt and Melanie Capobianco, have been trying to adopt Veronica since she was born, while her biological father, Dusten Brown, has been fighting them for custody.

**Associated Press:** Battle for Veronica now at Oklahoma Supreme Court

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=B181uWsX](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=B181uWsX)

An adoption fight centered around a 3-year-old Cherokee girl is entering another phase with arguments set before Oklahoma's highest court. Dusten Brown of the Cherokee Nation says the Indian Child Welfare Act dictates his daughter should remain with him, but the U.S. Supreme Court has said the act doesn't apply in this case. Matt and Melanie Capobianco of Charleston, S.C., have tried adopt the girl since she was born. Veronica's mother agreed to the adoption but Brown has since intervened. Parties gathered Tuesday at the Oklahoma Supreme Court with state troopers standing by. Justices have granted an emergency stay to keep Veronica with Brown. A state Supreme Court referee is expected to recommend which court should take the case next: South Carolina's, Oklahoma's or the Cherokee Nation's.

**Post and Courier:** Oklahoma Supreme Court takes up Veronica case after lower judge orders custody change

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130903/PC16/130909837/1177/oklahoma-supreme-court-takes-up-veronica-case-after-lower-judge-orders-custody-change>

Andrew Knapp

A court order for Matt and Melanie Capobianco to immediately get custody of Veronica, the girl they adopted, was halted by the Oklahoma Supreme Court, according to records made available this morning. Attorneys for the girl's birth father who has been caring for her for the past 19 months, Dusten Brown, were granted the stay of judgment on Friday. That's the day attorneys for both sides met in a courtroom in Nowata County, where Brown lives. It had been thought that the Nowata court ordered Brown to immediately transfer custody to the James Island couple, but the Oklahoma's high court hadn't confirmed that until it posted the records this morning. The stay stopped the custody change from happening.

### **Sen. Lindsey Graham weighs in on Syria:**

**Associated Press:** Graham: US needs effective strike in Syria

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=FmTI8xNc](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=FmTI8xNc)

Bruce Smith

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham said Tuesday that while South Carolinians and the nation are weary of war, the United States must make an effective strike in response to Syrian President Bashar Assad's use of chemical weapons against his own people. "I don't want an open-ended, unlimited military campaign," the Republican lawmaker told reporters before speaking to a chamber of commerce group. "I'm not supporting a 'check the box strike.' I want a strike that will degrade Assad's ability to deliver chemical weapons and change the tide of battle." Graham and Arizona Sen. John McCain met with President Barack Obama on Monday and won conditional support from him for an attack. Graham said Tuesday the president must lay out a clear case to Congress.

**Post and Courier:** Sen. Lindsey Graham outlines what's at stake in Syria

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130903/PC16/130909839/1177/sen-lindsey-graham-expected-to-discuss-syria-while-in-goose-creek-today>

Robert Behre

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham said today his job is to convince Americans that the future of Syria will affect their national security. Fresh off his Monday meeting with President Obama and fellow Sen. John McCain over Syria's recent use of chemical weapons, Graham talked to Berkeley County business leaders at a luncheon. "I'm tired of war as much as anybody," he said. "Syria doesn't have to be like Iraq or Afghanistan, but if it's left unaddressed, it's going to be a nightmare for us." Graham and McCain, considered among Obama's most hawkish critics, met with the president this weekend, as Obama tries to convince Congress to approve his plans to strike at Syria.

**Washington Post:** Sen. Lindsey Graham on Syria

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/right-turn/wp/2013/09/03/exclusive-sen-lindsey-graham-on-syria/>

Jennifer Rubin

Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) told Right Turn in a phone conversation this morning, "I'm not going to support a strategy that has zero chance of success." Contrary to news reports, he told me that he and Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) aren't yet sold on President Obama's strategy for Syria. Without them, Graham said bluntly, there is little chance of a "yes" vote from Congress. "I don't know if we can carry [the yes vote] over the finish line but I can assure defeat without us." Graham is realistic about our current options. "This is not a yes or no question. It's about bad and worse," he observed. "Good and very good are in the rear view mirror." Nevertheless, he warned, "I've got to be convinced there is a strategy." Right now, the jury is out. For the first time I can recall, he said a hapless effort with no chance of success is "just as bad" as a "no" vote.

### **South Carolina News:**

**Greenville News:** GOP primary election lawsuit dismissed

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130903/NEWS/309030056/GOP-primary-election-lawsuit-dismissed>

David Dykes

A federal judge has dismissed a lawsuit by the Greenville County Republican Party's executive committee that hoped to block Democrats from voting in GOP primary elections. The county GOP had filed a constitutional challenge in federal court to various South Carolina election statutes. U.S. District Judge Mary G. Lewis ruled, however, the party didn't have legal standing to sue to close South Carolina primaries, court records show. In South Carolina, any registered voter is allowed to participate in a primary election without declaring a political affiliation.

**Associated Press:** Ex-Secret Service agent found guilty in SC plot

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=dQjpF3Cp](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=dQjpF3Cp)

A former Secret Service agent has been sentenced to five years in prison for plotting to kidnap a retired judge. A judge handed down the sentence Tuesday after an Oconee County jury found James Bartee guilty of solicitation to commit a felony. Bartee was also sentenced to five years of probation. Bartee was arrested during a May 2012 hearing while he was running for Oconee County sheriff. Authorities said he was worried a hearing would reveal he didn't have the qualifications to be sheriff and paid an informant to kidnap a former judge who was going to testify against him.

**Post and Courier:** Feral hogs a growing problem for South Carolina wildlife managers

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130902/PC16/130909940/1177/feral-hogs-a-growing-problem-for-south-carolina-wildlife-managers>

Bo Petersen

The feral hog isn't about to go away. The population will continue to grow — whether or not they are hunted and trapped. Problems like the recent homeowners' damage in West Ashley can be expected to get worse. Land managers and others worry about eventually having to deal with a Texas-size problem. The 2 million-or-more hog population in that state is considered to be 10 times larger than it was 30 years ago, according to the Houston Chronicle, even though the state virtually declared war on them 20 years ago with some of the most aggressive "taking" policies in the nation, and hundreds of thousands of the animals are killed each year.

## Local News:

**Anderson Independent:** Bartee guilty; gets maximum sentence

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/sep/03/breaking-bartee-found-guilty/>

Ray Chandler

A former Secret Service agent who once guarded U.S. presidents and ran for Sheriff of Oconee County has been found guilty of plotting to kidnap a retired South Carolina judge. James Bartee was found guilty at about 2 p.m. Tuesday after taking the stand Friday. Bartee got the maximum sentence of ten years and will serve five in prison and five on probation and during probation he will have to attend counseling and perform 250 hours of community service.

**The State:** Homeless Problem Is Depressing Investment In Downtown Columbia, Business People And City Leaders Say

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gPbRVdBH](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gPbRVdBH)

John Monk

A group of high-profile business people and bankers joined Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin and City Councilman Cameron Runyan Tuesday urged council to take positive action at a meeting later in the day on a plan to deal with the homeless downtown. To demonstrate how much urgently action is needed, speakers at the news conference in the Beringer Building downtown quoted statistics they say show how severely the hundreds of homeless who congregate in the inner city are hurting the downtown's economy. Boyd Jones, executive vice president in charge of commercial lending at S.C. National Bank, said the presence of so many homeless is depressing investment throughout the downtown area.

**Post and Courier:** Charleston area home prices continue to grow, report says

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130903/PC05/130909838/1177/charleston-area-home-prices-continue-to-grow-report-says>

Tyrone Richardson

The price of homes in the Charleston metro region continues an upward trend, but could slow in coming months due in-part to higher mortgage rates, according to a report released today. Home prices in the Charleston region increased by 7.2 percent in July compared to the same month a year ago, according to real estate information firm CoreLogic. Home prices also grew 0.3 percent from June. The region continues the mirror the upward trend in the nation's national home price average. Home prices nationwide, including distressed sales, increased 12.4 percent on year-over-year basis in July.

**Sun News:** Sept. 11 event announced in North Myrtle Beach

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/09/03/3685862/sept-11-event-announced-in-north.html#storylink=cpy>

Amanda Kelley

A ceremony honoring the victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack will be held in North Myrtle Beach at the Main Street Horseshoe at 7 p.m. Glow sticks, colored red, white and blue will be given to the first 2,974 participants to represent the number of people who died in the attack. The ceremony will end with a 21 gun salute and the chiming of the fire bell. A memorial wreath will be set afloat on the ocean.

**Post and Courier:** Wife of 9/11 victim to be guest speaker at Patriots Point remembrance ceremony Friday  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130903/PC05/130909842/1177/wife-of-9-11-victim-to-be-guest-speaker-at-patriots-point-remembrance-ceremony-friday>

The wife of the co-pilot of United Airlines Flight 93 that crashed in Pennsylvania during the 2001 terrorists attacks will be the guest speaker during a 9/11 remembrance ceremony at 10 a.m. Friday at Patriots Point in the Yorktown theater. Melodie Homer, wife of co-pilot LeRoy Homer, wrote a book titled, "From Where I Stand," which chronicles the events that day and the new normal she's come to know since losing her husband. Flight 93 had 33 passengers and seven crew members on board when it crashed near Shanksville, Pa., after terrorists hijacked the plane and passengers fought back to prevent the jet from reaching a target in Washington, D.C.

#### **National News:**

**Associated Press:** Obama gains Boehner's support for Syria strike

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=K4lrLIV4](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=K4lrLIV4)

Bradley Klapper and David Espo

President Barack Obama won critical support from House Speaker John Boehner for a punitive strike against Syria on Tuesday, and senior Cabinet officials labored to convince Congress that Bashar Assad's government must be punished for a suspected chemical weapons attack the administration blames for more than 1,000 dead. The leader of House Republicans, Boehner emerged from a meeting at the White House and said the United States has "enemies around the world that need to understand that we're not going to tolerate this type of behavior. We also have allies around the world and allies in the region who also need to know that America will be there and stand up when it's necessary." Boehner spoke as lawmakers in both parties readied changes in the president's requested legislation, rewriting it to restrict the type and duration of any military action that would be authorized, possibly including a ban on U.S. combat forces on the ground.

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