

From: Symmes, Brian
To:
Date: 9/14/2013 7:29:53 AM
Subject: Clips - Saturday, September 14, 2013

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

The State: Gov. Haley to join Vice President Joe Biden in Charleston

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/14/2978595/sc-political-briefs-sept-14.html>

Gov. Nikki Haley will join Vice President Joe Biden and U.S. Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx at the Port of Charleston Monday for a noon press conference on the importance of deepening Charleston harbor. Advocates, including the Democratic Obama-Biden Administration and Republican Haley, say the port needs to be deepened to allow larger cargo ships to use its facilities. More and more of those larger ships will be plying the seas after the Panama Canal is widened and deepened to permit giant "Panamax" vessels to transit the canal. Traffic through the port is important to S.C. manufacturers, large employers who export goods, and consumers, who buy often cheaper goods from overseas, those advocates say.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Deadbeat data still overdue

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130914/PC1002/130919569/1021/deadbeat-data-still-overdue>

Editorial

When a problem goes unresolved for 16 years, it's not merely a lingering concern. It's an institution. And that's what has happened in South Carolina with a computer system that was mandated by the federal government to track down deadbeat parents by 1997. Sixteen years and it still doesn't work. The problem spans the administrations of four governors. The director of the Department of Social Services in Mark Sanford's first term declared in 2003 that fixing the system was a major goal. Easier said than done, as it turned out. Then and now.

Florence morning news: Way past time for SC to fix deadbeat parent tracking system

http://www.scnow.com/opinion/editorials/article_4e8c28c6-1cc1-11e3-a038-0019bb30f31a.html

Editorial

Thumbs down to South Carolina for being the only state in the nation that has failed to comply with federal guidelines for tracking deadbeat parents. Sixteen years after the feds imposed a deadline, the Palmetto State has not been able to put the proper centralized computer system to enforce child support payments in place, and it has now led to contract disputes with Hewlett Packard and federal fines exceeding \$100 million. The state worked out a deal with HP, and the computer company agreed to help cover the penalties through last June. The system was supposed to be working statewide this month, but is still not in operation, so the state cancelled its contract with HP recently.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Okla. justices to hear Cherokee girl custody case

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=3RwFRbo1

Kristi Eaton

The Oklahoma Supreme Court has agreed to hear a case involving the custody dispute over a 3-year-old Cherokee girl. Dusten Brown of Oklahoma has for years been fighting a South Carolina couple, Matt and Melanie Capobianco, over custody of Veronica, who turns 4 on Sunday. An online docket listing says the court has been assigned the case. No timeframe was given. In June, the U.S. Supreme Court said Brown, a member of the Cherokee Nation, couldn't use the Indian Child Welfare Act in his fight. A South Carolina court then finalized Veronica's adoption by the Capobiancos. Two Oklahoma courts have certified the adoption order, but Brown appealed to the state Supreme Court.

Post and Courier: South Carolina couple's attorney says Oklahoma tribe never expressed interest before

Desaray's birth

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130913/PC16/130919617/1006/south-carolina-couple-x2019-s-attorney-says-oklahoma-tribe-never-expressed-interest-before-desaray-x2019-s-birth>

Andrew Knapp

The American Indian tribe fighting for custody of an infant from Oklahoma never showed such an interest before she was born in May, an attorney for the Columbia-area couple trying to adopt the girl said Friday. In a custody dispute that has some drawing comparisons to 3-year-old Veronica's case, attorney Raymond Godwin of Greenville said the couple followed the law. They didn't take the baby home until more than a month after her birth, the attorney said, brushing aside accusations that Desaray was whisked away for a quick adoption.

The State: SC DHEC Discourages Public From Approaching Board

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=IjJg0TQ4

Sammy Fretwell

The state environmental and health agency is restricting access to board members at monthly meetings in Columbia. Signs were posted at Thursday's Department of Health and Environmental Control meeting advising people not to approach members at their seats in the agency's board room. An armed guard sat next to one of the two signs. "Board members and designated DHEC personnel only," the signs read. Jim Beasley, a spokesman for DHEC, said the agency has had a long-standing policy of trying to keep the public and the media away from the board's conference table during breaks in the monthly sessions. But Beasley said DHEC had not posted signs until this month's meeting.

Aiken Standard: DOE alters plan to reuse two waste tanks at SRS

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130914/AIK0101/130919721/1007/AIK0101/doe-alters-plan-to-reuse-two-waste-tanks-at-srs>

Derrek Asberry

The U.S. Department of Energy is making changes to a plan to reuse two nuclear waste tanks at the Savannah River Site. "We have not dropped plans for those tanks, but have developed an alternative plan for Fiscal Year 2014," said DOE representative Jim Giusti. DOE recently requested permission to reuse the emptied high-level waste Tanks 4 and 7. The tanks were emptied as part of an ongoing effort to clean up waste at SRS. DOE also recently submitted budget requests to Congress that concentrate funding on nuclear waste sites in other parts of the country, making it virtually impossible for SRS to meet the milestones agreed to with the state, according to the state health department.

The State: Graham And Gowdy Blast Obama Policy In Furman Lectures

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=RRjy4lik

Lynne P. Shackelford

A dangerous international message has been sent in the year and two days since the terrorist attack on the American consulate in Benghazi that left four Americans dead, Sen. Lindsey Graham told students during a lecture at Furman University on Friday. No one has been charged in the attack, and Graham said the White House continues to stonewall the investigation, refusing Congressional access to survivors, a message the senator said speaks volumes to those who intend to cause harm. Graham said the United States is beginning to appear as a paper tiger - or one who looks as threatening as a tiger, but doesn't withstand the challenge - if it doesn't find those responsible for the Benghazi attack.

The State: Brannon Decides Against Zais Challenge

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=84uPKOcE

Lee G. Healy

State Rep. Doug Brannon said Friday he will not run for the office of state superintendent of education, but plans to seek re-election to the House. Brannon, R-Landrum, said over the summer that he was considering a bid for superintendent but never formally announced his candidacy. Current Superintendent Mick Zais, a Republican, has said he will seek re-election. Zais, who previously served as the president of Newberry College and was a brigadier general in the U.S. Army, is in his first term in office.

The State: DHEC Wins Battle Or Reusing Waste Tanks

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=od20FCoG

The Department of Health and Environmental Control said Friday it has won a battle with federal officials over reusing high-level waste tanks that are being cleaned out at the Savannah River Site nuclear weapons complex. According to DHEC, the U.S. Department of Energy wanted to reuse two tanks that already had

been cleansed of the deadly waste, but backed away from the plan recently. DHEC director Catherine Templeton said she's glad the tanks won't be reused. The agency did not say how the energy department wanted to use the tanks.

Rock Hill Herald: Daimler headquarters decision won't affect Fort Mill operations

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/09/14/5207419/daimler-headquarters-decision.html#storylink=cpy>

Don Worthington

Daimler Trucks North America's decision to build a new corporate headquarters in Portland, Ore., will not affect operations at the company's marketing and sales office in Fort Mill, or its plants in North or South Carolina, company officials said Friday. Daimler is, however, considering "sales options" for the nearly 400 undeveloped acres it owns near Lake Wylie in York County, company spokeswoman Tracy Darchini said Friday. Daimler purchased the land near Crowders Creek and Allison Creek in 2008 with the intention of building a 200,000-square-foot office building. At the time, there was speculation the company might move its headquarters from Portland to the Carolinas.

Associated Press: Daimler North America to expand in Portland

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=59bDVWg0

Jonathan J. Cooper

Daimler Trucks North America announced Friday it will expand its Portland headquarters after state and city officials offered nearly \$20 million in incentives. The unit of Daimler AG said its new building will house 400 new white-collar workers and hundreds of existing employees who now work in rented offices across the Willamette River. The expansion will happen on the company's existing campus on Swan Island. Daimler makes heavy-duty trucks and school buses under brands that include Freightliner, Western Star and Thomas Built. The German company employs about 2,800 people at its North American headquarters in Portland, including about 750 people in blue-collar manufacturing jobs.

Aiken Standard: SRR layoffs effective Thursday

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130914/AIK0101/130919719/1007/AIK0101/srr-layoffs-effective-thursday>

Derrek Asberry

Savannah River Remediation's 465 layoffs were effective as of Thursday with employees' last day on the payroll slated for Sept. 27. In his letter to employees, interim president Stuart MacVean wrote, "Employees have been selected for separation based on forecasts of staffing levels needed to safely support projected scope without the necessity for rehiring of separated employees or backfilling of the positions of separated employees. Separating employees' last day on the rolls will be September 27, 2013." Benefits are still being offered to the affected employees. Outplacement services are available through the State of Georgia Department of Labor and/or the State of South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce.

The State: Former USC Football Coach, Senator Giese Dies

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=PchS7da7

Former South Carolina football coach Warren Giese has died. He was 89. Giese died Thursday in Columbia. He coached the Gamecocks 1956 to 1960, compiling a 28–21–1 record over five years. His 28 wins are the eighth-most all-time at South Carolina. Giese coach the 1958 team that finished 7-3. This team that featured Alex Hawkins and King Dixon had the possibility of being really special, but two close losses spoiled the possibility of a major bowl. He was an elected member of the S.C. Senate from 1984 to 2004.

Local News:

Anderson Independent: Millions in investment headed to Oconee, officials say

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/sep/13/millions-in-investment-headed-to-oconee-say/>

Ray Chandler

Two industrial investments totaling at least \$17 million are headed Oconee County's way, while other companies are looking to invest, according to county officials. Richard Blackwell, county economic development director, on Friday outlined the basics of Project Flat and Project Gamma, both of which involve existing companies in the county that are planning expansions. Neither company has yet been identified. Project Flat, Blackwell said, involved a firm closing a plant in Europe and moving a manufacturing operation to Oconee County. The plan calls for investing \$12 million, with the expected creation of 20 jobs.

Associated Press: SC school district tries to reach dropout students

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/09/14/2683366/sc-school-district-tries-to-reach.html#storylink=cpy>

An Orangeburg school district is trying to get students who have dropped out of high school back in the classroom. School District Five's office of dropout prevention is holding a walk Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to bring attention to the problem. The walk begins at Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School. Volunteers who are at least 21 years of age are needed to seek out the students who have dropped and help them return.

Times and Democrat: Orangeburg County planners OK zoning change for rural property

http://thetandd.com/news/local/orangeburg-county-planners-ok-zoning-change-for-rural-property/article_a433cd04-1cf5-11e3-ac7b-001a4bcf887a.html

Gene Zaleski

A divided Orangeburg County Planning Commission Wednesday decided to allow an Orangeburg County man to proceed with his plans to transform a former single-family residence into a funeral home in a county zoning district created for forest and agriculture. Desmond Simmons requested the five-acre piece of property be rezoned so he can place a funeral home on it in the future. The commission voted 4-2 to rezone the property at 5423 Charleston Highway near the intersection of Charleston Highway and Gordon Drive from the Forest/Agriculture district to the Rural Community district. The property is about three miles outside of Bowman.

Post and Courier: Dorchester District 2 hopes to win exemption from state, federal accountability, pilot new ACT tests that could be used statewide

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130914/PC16/130919681/1177/dorchester-district-2-hopes-to-win-exemption-from-state-federal-accountability-pilot-new-act-tests-that-could-be-used-statewide>

Diette Courrage Casey

Summerville — Dorchester District 2 school students soon could be exempt from taking most tests that are part of state and federal accountability requirements. The high-achieving school district serving lower Dorchester County is the only one in the state seeking a waiver from PASS tests and exit exams. The district instead would use a package of tests being designed by ACT, which is best known for its college entrance exam. District leaders said they want to use the ACT-developed tests because they think it would be better for students, teachers, parents and employers. The ACT testing system is coordinated and connected among every grade, which means the tests can better measure and monitor students' academic achievement over time, according to the district.

The State: Sales Tax Panel Starts Work

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Y5QRvAsF

Tim Flach

An advisory panel began work Friday on a package of projects that would be paid for by a new sales tax in Lexington County with an outline on developing the plan. Panel members will submit the plan to County Council next spring, setting the stage for a ballot in November 2014 at which voters will decide on a penny on the dollar tax increase. The tax is estimated to generate \$35 million annually for the eight years it would last, with renewal possible if voters agree.

The State: Columbia City Attorney Warned Council Not To Sign Bull Street Deal

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=z62KVPel

Jeff Wilkinson

Columbia City Council voted against its own attorneys' advice when it approved a deal with a Greenville developer to redevelop the old State Hospital campus on Bull Street. In a confidential memorandum to council obtained by The State newspaper and dated July 8 - the day before the vote on the biggest land deal in modern Columbia history - attorney Ken Gaines advised members not to approve the agreement unless "definitive" funding sources for \$50 million in taxpayer-funded improvements to the property were identified.

Island Packet: Preparations underway for Lt. Dan Band Concert's debut in Charleston

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/09/13/2682520/preparations-underway-for-lt-dan.html#storylink=cpy>

Erin Moody

It's quieter in Beaufort this week than it usually is at this time last year. There's no flurry of activity in the Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park and few conspicuous embraces between a military community and those damaged by combat. The Lt. Dan Weekend will be held for a fourth consecutive year, but for the first time, it won't be based in Beaufort. Most of the events associated with the weekend, including the signature

Lt. Dan Band Concert led by actor-musician Gary Sinise, have shifted to Charleston.

National News:

Associated Press: US-Russia Reach Agreement on Syria Weapons

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/officials-weapons-agreement-peace-talks>

Matthew Lee and John Heilprin

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Saturday they have reached an agreement on a framework for Syria to destroy all of its chemical weapons, and raised the specter of a potential U.N. Security Council resolution that could authorize sanctions — even military action — if President Bashar Assad's government fails to comply. The diplomats announced on the third day of intense negotiations in Geneva that some elements of the deal include a timetable and how Syria must comply. Notably, Kerry said they had agreed on grounds under which they might request a Security Council "Chapter 7" resolution — authorizing both military and non-military sanctions. The U.S. and Russia are two of the five permanent Security Council members with a veto. The others are Britain, China, and France.

Associated Press: Advocates Turn to Obama for Action on Immigration

[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_IMMIGRATION?](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_IMMIGRATION?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2013-09-13-16-37-57)

[SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2013-09-13-16-37-57](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_IMMIGRATION?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2013-09-13-16-37-57)

Erica Werner

With immigration legislation stalled in Congress, advocates are intensifying pressure on the Obama administration to act unilaterally to stop deportations or grant legal status to some of the 11 million people now living in the U.S. illegally. Activists are stepping up acts of civil disobedience like one last month in Phoenix, where they blocked a bus full of immigrant detainees. And labor leaders plan to press the issue with a top White House official in an upcoming meeting. Many advocates continue to hold out hope for a legislative solution even as some shift their focus to the White House.

Brian Symmes

Direct Line: (803) 734-0304

Cell: (803) 673-9437