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Subject: Morning Clips – Tuesday, March 25, 2014

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## Morning Clips – Tuesday, March 25, 2014

### Governor Nikki Haley News:

**The State:** MORNING BUZZ: More pro-Nikki Haley ads coming to SC airwaves

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/25/3346635/morning-buzz.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain, Jamie Self

A pro-Gov. Nikki Haley political group will begin Wednesday airing television ads statewide urging state senators to back her education plan. The ad comes as Haley, a first-term governor from Lexington, prepares for another run against Democratic state Sen. Vincent Sheheen this year.

**The State:** SC Politics: Pro-Haley group begins running TV ads

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/24/3346391/sc-politics-pro-haley-group-begins.html#storylink=cpy>

A pro-Gov. Nikki Haley political group will begin airing television ads statewide Wednesday urging state senators to back the first-term Republican's education plan. The House included about \$60 million for reading teachers and technology money that were part of Haley's \$160 million proposal introduced before the legislative session.

**Times and Democrat:** S.C. Technical College System Day March 25

[http://thetandd.com/news/s-c-technical-college-system-day-march/article\\_f27b8574-b3b3-11e3-ab49-0019bb2963f4.html](http://thetandd.com/news/s-c-technical-college-system-day-march/article_f27b8574-b3b3-11e3-ab49-0019bb2963f4.html)

Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College is joining technical colleges across the state in recognizing March 25 as South Carolina Technical College System Day. Gov. Nikki Haley and members of the General Assembly have set aside this day to recognize the system's outstanding contribution to educating and training South Carolina's workforce.

### S.C. Political News:

**Spartanburg Herald Journal:** As second week of filing begins, some incumbents facing challenges

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140324/ARTICLES/140329899/0/search>

Felicia Kitzmiller

Heading into the second week of election filing, a few Spartanburg County incumbents are facing opposition. County Councilman O'Neal Mintz has represented District 2, which encompasses the Boiling Springs and Chesnee communities, since 2006 and is seeking his third consecutive term.

**Rock Hill Herald:** Tega Cay exec running for U.S. Senate

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/03/24/5801782/tega-cay-exec-running-for-us-senate.html?sp=/100/104/#storylink=cpy>

Jie Jenny Zou

Jill Bossi, vice president of the American Red Cross and a resident of Tega Cay, announced Monday her plans to run for the U.S. Senate seat held by Republican Tim Scott. It is her first run for public office. Scott was appointed by Republican Gov. Nikki Haley in December 2012 to succeed U.S. Sen. Jim DeMint, the Republican who stepped down to lead the conservative Heritage Foundation.

**Times and Democrat:** Six file in U.S. Senate race

[http://thetandd.com/news/six-file-in-u-s-senate-race/article\\_192ee2d8-b3b4-11e3-bb7c-0019bb2963f4.html](http://thetandd.com/news/six-file-in-u-s-senate-race/article_192ee2d8-b3b4-11e3-bb7c-0019bb2963f4.html)  
Martha Rose Brown

Orangeburg attorney Bill Connor has officially filed to run for the seat held by U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, who has filed for re-election. So far, four Republicans have filed for the seat: Connor, Graham, Det Bowers of Columbia and Richard Cash of Piedmont. Irmo Democrat Jay Stamper has filed for the seat, as has Columbia Libertarian Victor Kocher.



**Post and Courier:** Bill Connor, Det Bowers file against Lindsey Graham

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140324/PC1610/140329640/bill-connor-det-bowers-file-against-lindsey-graham>

Robert Behre

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham has picked up two more official primary opponents as Orangeburg lawyer Bill Connor and Columbia pastor and retired lawyer Det Bowers have both filed as Republicans. Easley businessman Richard Cash also has filed for the seat, and there could be as many as three other GOP challengers before filing ends Sunday.

### **Opinion / Editorial Roundup:**

**Washington Post:** Why teachers' salaries should be doubled — now

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/answer-sheet/wp/2014/03/25/why-teachers-salaries-should-be-doubled-now/>

Nínive Calegari

Nínive Calegari is a former classroom teacher who founded and serves as the president of The Teacher Salary Project, an organization aimed at improving the salaries of America's teachers. Where there is a will, there is a way and it's time for the top leaders in our 50 states to step up. Some are starting to do just that.

**Note:** Gov. Nikki Haley of South Carolina wants to increase all starting salaries to \$40,000, from less than \$30,000 in some areas.

**Spartanburg Herald Journal:** State justifiably outraged by administration's nuclear waste policy

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140323/ARTICLES/140329909/1128/opinion?Title=State-justifiably-outraged-by-administration-s-nuclear-waste-policy>

Editorial

Gov. Nikki Haley and state Attorney General Alan Wilson announced last week they are suing the U.S. Department of Energy for the Obama administration's decision to cancel a planned plant at the Savannah River Site. The legal merits of the state's case will be determined in the courts, but logic and sound government are on the state's side.

**Aiken Standard:** Shelving MOX the wrong path forward

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140325/AIK0201/140329691/1018/AIK02/editorial-shelving-mox-the-wrong-path-forward>

Editorial

The slashing of the MOX fuel facility shows us how easily political realities change. The project was supposed to be part of the nation's solution for disposing of nuclear waste. Now, it's a boondoggle that could leave South Carolina with tons of radioactive plutonium right in our own backyard, in addition to the enormous amounts that originated at Savannah River Site.

**Times and Democrat:** Graham looking stronger in GOP primary race

[http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/graham-looking-stronger-in-gop-primary-race/article\\_8f2d52e6-b178-11e3-8999-001a4bcf887a.html](http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/graham-looking-stronger-in-gop-primary-race/article_8f2d52e6-b178-11e3-8999-001a4bcf887a.html)

Editorial

THE ISSUE: Challengers to Sen. Lindsey Graham: OUR OPINION: Unity against incumbent aside, none is able so far to represent a significant challenge. The Republican opponents of Sen. Lindsey Graham are doing their best to make headlines that can elevate at least one of them to contender status in the June primary.

**Post and Courier:** McConnell deserves support

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140325/PC1002/140329632/1021/mcconnell-deserves-support>

Editorial

Lt. Gov. Glenn McConnell will assume the presidency of the College of Charleston amidst controversy over his selection. He has dealt successfully with controversy - some of it very heated - during his years in the S. C. Senate, and there is no reason he shouldn't be successful in his new role.

**Greenville News:** Stop efforts to nullify federal ACA

[http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20140325/OPINION01/303250002/Stop-efforts-nullify-federal-ACA?nclck\\_check=1](http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20140325/OPINION01/303250002/Stop-efforts-nullify-federal-ACA?nclck_check=1)



## Editorial

Wisdom prevailed in the South Carolina Senate last week as senators let a bill die that would have attempted to nullify the federal Affordable Care Act. Even last week, after nullification proposals were killed, challenged and killed again, Sen. Tom Davis who drafted the Senate's revision of a House bill said, "I'm not going to give up."

**The State:** SC should require ignition-interlocks, to save innocent lives

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/24/3346166/editorial-sc-should-require-ignition.html#storylink=cpy>

## Editorial

DRIVING IS not a right. It's a privilege. Driving drunk isn't even a privilege. It's a crime. A deadly crime. More people are killed by drunken drivers in South Carolina than in all but six other states. Not more people per capita. More people. Even though 23 states have more people than we do.

**Rock Hill Herald:** Military justice system still needs reform

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/03/24/5801386/military-justice-system-still.html?sp=/100/105/121/>

## Editorial

The botched sexual-assault trial of Brig. Gen Jeffrey Sinclair may not be the perfect example of why the system of military justice needs to be reformed. Nonetheless, the result illustrates many of the problems associated with the current system.

**Island Packet:** Bluffton must divulge details of secret land deal

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/03/24/3021006/bluffton-must-divulge-details.html?sp=/99/342/1750/#storylink=cpy>

## Editorial

We have high hopes that Bluffton Town Council, scheduled to discuss a mysterious land proposal today, will be forthcoming in what the deal entails. So far, taxpayers know nothing more than the town, along with its development corporation and Beaufort County, are considering chipping in \$1 million each to buy about 34 acres near Buckwalter Place in the hopes of attracting an unidentified business.

## Legislative Session News:

**Associated Press:** Courson says he won't become lieutenant governor

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4vCZ8VFt](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4vCZ8VFt)

Seanna Adcox

Senate President Pro Tem John Courson will not relinquish his Senate seat to temporarily become lieutenant governor, he told The Associated Press on Monday. The college's board unanimously selected McConnell, an alumnus, on Saturday. He is expected to start July 1.

**Post and Courier:** S.C. House merger talks continue Tuesday

<http://politics.postandcourier.com/2014/03/24/s-c-house-merger-talks-continue-tuesday/>

Jeremy Borden

Another meeting of the S.C. House committee that is taking up the merger between the College of Charleston and Medical University of South Carolina is scheduled to meet Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. Commerce Secretary Bobby Hitt and Julie Carullo of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education are scheduled to speak.

**The State:** Emma's Law hearing likely Tuesday; House Judiciary fight may take place

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/24/3346488/emmas-law-hearing-likely-tuesday.html#storylink=cpy>

John Monk

The powerful House Judiciary Committee likely will hold a scheduled hearing Tuesday on Emma's Law, a bill aimed at getting tough on repeat drunken drivers and reducing the state's soaring numbers of innocents killed by them.

**Island Packet:** Cannabidiol oil bill facing challenges as it moves closer to S.C. Senate vote

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/03/24/3021152/cannabidiol-oil-bill-facing-challenges.html?sp=/99/100/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy>

Matt McNab

A bill that would allow children with severe epilepsy to obtain an oil extracted from marijuana to help control their seizures has moved to the floor of the state Senate. However, a major change could prevent the bill



from helping the child who inspired it.

**Island Packet:** House bill would suspend sale of Port Royal port

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/03/24/3020447/house-bill-would-suspend-sale.html?sp=/99/100/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy>

Erin Moody

Rep. Kenneth Hodges, D-Green Pond, introduced a bill March 12 that would suspend efforts to sell the 317 acres along Battery Creek and order the State Budget and Control Board and State Ports Authority to re-evaluate the "best use of the property for the benefit of the state."

**Post and Courier:** Evolution should be part of core S.C. science standards, Charleston professor says

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140324/PC1603/140329645/1031/evolution-should-be-part-of-core-sc-science-standards-charleston-professor-says>

Cynthia Roldan

A biology professor told an education panel on Monday that members of his organization are frustrated with seeing the state's biology standards become a "political football for religious reasons or political reasons."

**Island Packet:** Bluffton state lawmaker fighting to allow golf-cart driving at night

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/03/24/3021140/bluffton-state-lawmaker-fighting.html?sp=/99/100/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy>

Dan Burley

A local legislator's plan to allow golf-cart drivers to ride at night has hit a roadblock. A state Senate committee last week approved state Rep. Bill Herbkersman's bill to ease restrictions on golf-cart drivers but eliminated language that would permit them to be driven on roads at night, provided the carts have proper headlights and rear lights.

**Florence Morning News:** Senator challenges Darlington school district's deep coffers

[http://www.scnow.com/news/education/article\\_6ffc8b46-b3b5-11e3-933d-001a4bcf6878.html](http://www.scnow.com/news/education/article_6ffc8b46-b3b5-11e3-933d-001a4bcf6878.html)

Ellen Meder

State Sen. Gerald Malloy is raising concerns about taxes the Darlington County School District board has been levying on the county's citizens and Tuesday the district released its explanation of some of those worries, while confirming the numbers.

## **S.C. Federal Delegation News:**

**Spartanburg Herald Journal:** Sen. Graham: BMW to build X7 at Spartanburg County plant

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140324/ARTICLES/140329895/1083/ARTICLES?p=1&tc=pg>

Trevor Anderson

BMW Group is celebrating 20 years of building cars in the U.S. in a big way. The company is expected to announce Friday that it will build a new vehicle — the X7 — at its Spartanburg County plant. Based on previous expansions, the introduction of the X7 could bring an additional investment approaching \$1 billion.

**Spartanburg Herald Journal:** Sen. Graham talks economy, health care during Spartanburg stop

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140324/ARTICLES/140329892/-1/www.lifumann.com?Title=Sen-Graham-talks-economy-health-care-during-Spartanburg-stop&tc=ar>

Trevor Anderson

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham on Monday discussed several national issues during a stop in Spartanburg. Graham spoke for nearly an hour to about 100 members of the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce during a luncheon at The Piedmont Club downtown.

**Seneca Journal:** Duncan: Plane incident raises security questions

<https://upstatetoday.com/2014/03/duncan-plane-incident-raises-security-questions/>

Norman Cannada

The disappearance of Malaysian Flight 370 raises "security questions" that will likely lead to changes in the ability to turn off devices onboard planes that allow aircraft to be tracked, according to U.S. Rep. Jeff Duncan.

**Times and Democrat:** After being turned away, veteran seeks to open military stores to all who served

[http://thetandd.com/news/after-being-turned-away-veteran-seeks-to-open-military-stores/article\\_9b5670a0-](http://thetandd.com/news/after-being-turned-away-veteran-seeks-to-open-military-stores/article_9b5670a0-)



[b3d2-11e3-86ec-001a4bcf887a.html](http://b3d2-11e3-86ec-001a4bcf887a.html)

Gene Zaleski

Thales Newsome of Orangeburg spent a decade in the military, with 13 months fighting in Vietnam. Having put his life on the line for his country, he said he was shocked by what he experienced when he went shopping at the Fort Jackson military base earlier this year. Newsome received 200 signatures, which were sent to U.S. Congressman James Clyburn last month and is now working on obtaining another 200 signatures to be sent to President Barack Obama.

### **South Carolina News:**

**Post and Courier:** Penalty fees for uninsured under 'Obamacare' might be higher than you think

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140324/PC16/140329623/1177/penalty-fees-for-uninsured-under-obamacare-might-be-higher-than-you-think>

Lauren Sausser

If you still need to buy health insurance, the clock is ticking. Most residents shouldn't worry about Obamacare's March 31 deadline because they're already insured, many of them through their employer, or by Medicare or Medicaid, but those who aren't could face a fine for failing to enroll in a plan by Monday.

**The State:** Explaining the penalty phase of the health insurance mandate

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/24/3346403/explaining-the-penalty-phase-of.html#storylink=cpy>

Joey Holleman

The message on signs at BlueCross BlueShield's Health Insurance Marketplace registration efforts morphed in early March from "get health insurance" to "avoid the penalty." And with less than 10 days left in the 2014 window to apply for coverage with policies through the federal marketplace, lots of people still don't understand the penalties.

**Aiken Standard:** Advisory board: No new nuclear materials at SRS

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140325/AIK0101/140329670/1004/advisory-board-no-new-nuclear-materials-at-srs>

Derrek Asberry

The Department of Energy's Savannah River Site Manager Dave Moody said there has been no decision on whether or not SRS will receive additional shipments of weapons-grade plutonium from Japan. Moody answered questions on the issue during the SRS Citizens Advisory Board's bimonthly meeting on Monday.

**The State:** Duke Energy: Cleaning up coal ash 'is going to take time'

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/24/3346207/duke-energy-cleaning-up-coal-ash.html#storylink=cpy>

Sammy Fretwell

Duke Energy downplayed concerns Monday about water pollution and dam safety at the company's only operating coal plant in South Carolina, saying the Upstate site is safe and should be no reason for alarm.

**Post and Courier:** McConnell meeting with campus groups preparing to lead the College of Charleston while some remain concerned

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140324/PC16/140329671/1006/mcconnell-meeting-with-campus-groups-preparing-to-lead-the-college-of-charleston-while-some-remain-concerned>

Diane Knich

Reactions to Lt. Gov. Glenn McConnell being hired as the next president of the College of Charleston run the gamut from elation to outrage. While some state higher education and government leaders said the board definitely made the right choice for the college and the state, a group of about 200 students Monday protested against the Board of Trustees' decision to hire McConnell.

### **Local News:**

**Island Packet:** County Council opposes local option sales tax

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/03/24/3020400/county-council-to-consider-local.html?sp=/99/257/266/#storylink=cpy>

Zach Murdock

Beaufort County Council says it does not want to put a 1 percent local-option sales tax proposal on ballots this fall. The sales tax would raise more revenue for municipalities and the county in exchange for property-tax relief and has the support of leaders in Beaufort, Bluffton and Port Royal.

**The State:** Columbia owes U.S. Treasury \$215,000 for summer youth program failings

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/24/3346394/columbia-owes-us-treasury-215000.html#storylink=cpy>

Clif LeBlanc

The penalty is being imposed by the Office of Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development after a review of HUD's empowerment zone grant program, according to Columbia officials and the Inspector General's office.

#### **National News:**

**Bloomberg:** Republican Odds of Senate Takeover Rise as Obama Declines

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-03-25/republican-odds-of-senate-takeover-rise-as-obama-declines.html>

John McCormick, Greg Giroux

The election that will determine control of the U.S. Senate is more than seven months away, an eternity in American politics. Even so, independent analysts are increasingly bullish on Republican prospects of gaining the six seats the party needs to win control of the chamber.

**Associated Press:** Justices tackle health law birth control coverage

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4LRDQUmW](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4LRDQUmW)

Mark Sherman

Supreme Court justices are weighing whether corporations have religious rights that exempt them from part of the new health care law that requires coverage of birth control for employees at no extra charge.

**Associated Press:** Brown works to overcome residency questions

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6ohAxVdm](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6ohAxVdm)

Steve Peoples

Scott Brown is working to convince New Hampshire voters he is one of them. Thirteen weeks after he became a registered voter in the state, the former Massachusetts senator is touring New Hampshire's diners, businesses and hospitals to help promote his nascent bid to unseat Democratic Sen. Jeanne Shaheen.

Brian Symmes

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