

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 1/17/2016 11:35:16 AM
Subject: Clips – Sunday, Sunday, January 17, 2016

Clips – Sunday, Sunday, January 17, 2016

Governor Nikki Haley News:

Times and Democrat: Haley plan will help rural schools, officials say

http://thetandd.com/news/haley-plan-will-help-rural-schools-officials-say/article_5233c4e6-cca4-5458-9659-72fc05eee2df.html

Dionne Gleaton

Local superintendents say Gov. Nikki Haley's education reform initiative is a good step in addressing the state's needs, particularly for rural school districts. "I think overall it's a good plan. I think most teachers appreciate the governor's initiatives and putting priority on education in the state," said Dr. Steve Wilson, superintendent of the Calhoun County School District.

Note: Haley's plan designates \$15 million for teacher recruitment and retention in impoverished areas, including annual tuition scholarships of up to \$7,500. To get the scholarship, students would have to commit to working eight years in a district with turnover rates exceeding 12 percent.

The State: Plight of SC public schools tops agenda at King Day at the Dome

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article55109220.html#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self

Last year, 10 S.C. African-Americans were shot and killed in tragedies that reverberated across the country – one by a white police officer, the others by an avowed racist. This year, lawmakers are grappling with an S.C. Supreme Court order to fix the state's impoverished, rural schools.

Note: For example, Ford said he liked Gov. Nikki Haley's most recent plan, announced Wednesday, to help districts renovate or build schools and recruit teachers to rural districts where turnover is high.

Post and Courier: Haley's State of Union response gets thumbs up from pollster Frank Luntz

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160117/PC1603/160119524>

Republican-oriented pollster Frank Luntz gave Gov. Nikki Haley high marks for her response to President Barack Obama's State of the Union message. And so did the focus group folks he had watching it. "My group loved it," Luntz said during the GOP presidential debate Thursday night in North Charleston.

Charleston GOP straw poll: A Donald Trump-Ted Cruz finish is how Charleston Republicans at the Cinebarre movie theater in Mount Pleasant watching Thursday's debates saw it as well.

Gowdy gets more work: Add another job to U.S. Rep. Trey Gowdy's growing list. The Spartanburg Republican is already the chairman of a select committee to investigate the September 2012 attacks on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, and of a House Judiciary Subcommittee on immigration and border security.

Food worker strike Sunday: A group advocating a \$15 an hour wage says it is urging Charleston fast-food workers to go on strike Sunday "as the first of an unprecedented wave of strikes and actions" calling for an increase in the minimum wage and recognition of union rights.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Greenville News: Six issues and the lawmakers who will influence them

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/01/16/six-issues-and-lawmakers-who-influence-them/78674724/>

Tim Smith

State lawmakers have returned to Columbia to finish the second half of a two-year session. Here are six issues to watch this year and the lawmakers who will influence what happens to each:

1. Roads. Lawmakers have debated this vexing issue for three years and while the House passed an infrastructure bill last year, the issue remains bottled up in the Senate, where major issues are often decided

in behind-the-scenes deals and coalitions formed between Republicans, Democrats and GOP conservatives.

2. The Budget. Lawmakers received good news last year when state economists and budget officials projected a surplus of almost \$1.3 billion this year.

3. Flood relief. Though the federal government funded hundreds of millions of dollars in aid to the state to help South Carolina recover from the disastrous October flooding, many individuals lost homes, businesses and crops from the record rainfall.

4. Education reform. Lawmakers have known for years about a lawsuit brought by school districts from some of the state's poorest and most rural counties to improve public education there but it took a State Supreme Court order in 2014 before both chambers began working on a reform plan.

5. Dash cam videos. When dash cams became standard tools in police vehicles, it didn't take long for them to capture dramatic footage of traffic stops, arrests and incidents, including police shootings.

6. Dam safety. When record rains hit South Carolina last October, 32 regulated dams failed. Dozens of unregulated dams also breached.

The State: THE BUZZ: Senate's refugee proposals denied fast-track consideration

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article55061165.html>

Cassie Cope

When senators left Columbia last summer, they promised road repairs would be at the top of their agenda when they returned to Columbia in January. Instead, among the first topics discussed on the Senate floor last week was refugees.

Note: State Sen. Darrell Jackson, D-Richland, took to the Senate floor to quote Republican Gov. Nikki Haley's GOP response to the Democratic President Barack Obama's State of the Union. "During anxious times, it can be tempting to follow the siren call of the angriest voices," Jackson quoted Haley.

Fact check? In her State of the Union response, Gov. Haley drew much praise in some circles for warning GOP voters to avoid following "the siren call of the angriest voices," a reference to leading Republican frontrunner Trump.

The State: SC Senate bill sparks clash of consumers, car dealers, lawyers and Supreme Court

<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/article55158070.html#storylink=cpy>

John Monk

Last year, the S.C. Supreme Court issued a 3-2 ruling in a class action lawsuit that forced an Upstate car dealer to pay out \$2.8 million in refunds and damages to thousands of customers who had bought vehicles from 2002 to 2006. That ruling upheld a Pickens County jury verdict that found a local car dealer, Hendrick Honda, had charged improper closing fees to 5,300 customers over four years.

Aiken Standard: Rep. Bill Taylor still seeking Convention of States

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160116/AIK0101/160119543/rep-bill-taylor-still-seeking-convention-of-states>

Derrek Asberry

S.C. Rep. Bill Taylor's 2013 push for a Convention of States is stalled in the General Assembly; but with momentum building across the nation, the Aiken Republican is hoping South Carolina will join other states in the effort. Taylor attended Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio's address in Aiken last week when the Florida senator said he would support a states' convention, or COS.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Haley's path to better schools

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160117/PC1002/160119407>

Editorial

Gov. Nikki Haley based her 2014 re-election campaign in part on her education reforms, which put more dollars in poor, rural school districts. Her welcome new education agenda, presented Wednesday at a school in Lexington County, expands and enhances her earlier efforts. It affirms her commitment to public education and promises to work on some of the intractable problems with schools in poor areas.

Greenville News: Obama, Haley map the future

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/editorials/2016/01/15/obama-haley-map-future/78788144/>

Editorial

In a pair of speeches Tuesday night that highlighted how divided our country is, President Barack Obama

and South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley tread on a surprising amount of common ground. Perhaps most encouraging, they each pleaded for a 2016 presidential campaign and an American political system that is constructive rather than destructive; one built on cooperation rather than division.

Note: Haley also spoke of Republicans' accountability for the insurmountable divide between Democrats and her party. "While Democrats in Washington bear much responsibility for the problems facing America today, they do not bear it alone," she said. "There is more than enough blame to go around. We as Republicans ... need to accept that we've played a role in how and why our government is broken. And then we need to fix it."

The State: Scoppe: Nikki Haley's simple message: Don't be a jerk

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scoppe/article54952310.html>

Cindi Ross Scoppe

SIX YEARS ago, Nikki Haley was the flame-thrower, fueled by tea party anger and libertarian funding, the inexperienced back-bencher whose smidgen of responsibility had been stripped away by the House speaker of her own party in a raucous falling-out. Even after she won the GOP nomination for governor, she remained so anti-establishment that the state Chamber of Commerce refused to endorse her.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Some bad ideas in gun legislation

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160117/OPINION/160119770/1128/opinion?Title=Some-bad-ideas-in-gun-legislation>

Editorial

A number of bad ideas have been written into bills introduced in the General Assembly this year on both sides of the gun control debate. Mass shootings last year, particularly the killing of nine people at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, have made firearm laws a hot topic in Washington and state legislatures. South Carolina lawmakers have a number of bills to consider, most of which they should reject.

Post and Courier: Smarter development, fewer floods

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160117/PC1002/160119405>

Editorial

It was no surprise that October's so-called 1,000-year flood devastated low-lying areas and brought water to places that don't typically flood. But some Charleston area residents think the already historic flooding was exacerbated by irresponsible development. Scientific evidence suggests they might be right.

Island Packet: Bring sense of urgency to end deadly violence

<http://www.islandpacket.com/opinion/editorials/article55141110.html>

Editorial

Beaufort County has a murder problem. So does our neighbor, Jasper County. And it's a major problem. Beaufort County had 17 homicides in 2015, double the year before. It was the deadliest year of at least the past two decades. Jasper County had 12 homicides last year.

South Carolina News:

New York Times: Volvo makes comeback with China detour, South Carolina plant

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160116/PC05/160119503>

Mary Chapman, Bill Vlasic

Record sales in the U.S. auto industry have left the biggest carmakers flush with cash, which they are pouring into new models on display this past week at the annual North American International Auto Show. But even the smallest auto companies are flourishing in the booming U.S. market — none more so than the tiny Chinese-owned, Swedish-run luxury brand Volvo.

Post and Courier: Visit to BMW gives Berkeley County officials a taste of what's to come with Volvo

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160116/PC05/160119504>

David Wren

Berkeley County knows what it's getting with Volvo — a \$500 million investment and roughly 2,000 jobs. What some officials didn't realize until last week, however, is the ancillary impact the Swedish automaker is likely to have on the Charleston region. "It woke me up to what's beyond Volvo — all the support industry that's going to come that we have to be ready for," Councilman Josh Whitley said of his visit last week to BMW's headquarters in Greer.

Island Packet: Police agencies that pay less hire more officers with blemished pasts

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/crime/article55113290.html>

Rebecca Lurye

On Jan. 4, 2009, an Estill police officer was walking into a convenience store when he instinctively reached for his holster and realized his gun was missing. He had put it on top of his car while he adjusted his uniform that morning and had driven away without it, the officer later told his supervisors after he failed to find the Glock pistol.

Post and Courier: South Carolina's rep at Fed still hawkish after rate hike

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160117/PC05/160119506>

John McDermott

Jeffrey Lacker doesn't have a vote this year when it comes to interest rates, but he still has strong opinions about them. Last week, the president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, which includes South Carolina, stood by his hawkish views on inflation during a speech in Columbia.

Local News:

Rock Hill Herald: More than 100 bridges rated "deficient" or "obsolete" in York, Chester, Lancaster counties

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article55085305.html#storylink=cpy>

Bristow Marchant

If your trip through York, Chester and Lancaster counties involves crossing over a bridge, there's a good chance you might need to take a detour. Multiple bridges in the three-county area have been closed for replacement in recent months. A state-maintained bridge in Rock Hill closed for more than a week over the Christmas holidays after heavy rains lead to a washout.

Island Packet: Beaufort, Jasper counties dole out second chances to fired cops

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/crime/article55109155.html#storylink=cpy>

Rebecca Lurye

Local police ranks in Beaufort and Jasper counties include officers who were fired from previous law enforcement jobs in South Carolina. Of 145 local police officers with past law enforcement experience in the state, 21 previously had been fired or resigned while facing disciplinary action.

National News:

McClatchy DC: With nuclear terms met, Iran sanctions are lifted and captives swapped

<http://www.thestate.com/news/nation-world/world/article55063110.html>

Carol Morello, Karen Dyoung

The United States and Iran moved into a new era of international relations Saturday, with the implementation of a landmark agreement on Iran's nuclear program on a drama-filled day that also saw the release of imprisoned Washington Post reporter Jason Rezaian and four other Americans.

Brian Symmes

Cell: 803-673-9437

Office: 803-734-0304