

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Wednesday, March 26, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Greenville News: DOT chief candidate: Upstate due for some influence in Columbia

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2014303260062>

Rudolph Bell

Greenville County businessman Johnny Edwards says he's hoping to become chief executive for the state highway department in part because "the Upstate is due for some influence in Columbia."

Note: Haley spokesman Doug Mayer declined to say who else has applied for the job, citing a longstanding policy of the Governor's Office not to comment on nominations until they are complete.

Greenville News: Graham Working to Outlaw Internet Gambling

<http://www.wltx.com/story/news/2014/03/26/lindsey-graham-internet-gambling/6918827/>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

A federal ban on Internet gambling would be restored under legislation introduced Wednesday by Sen. Lindsey Graham and others who say the Justice Department mistakenly allowed such gaming in a 2011 opinion. Graham, R-Seneca, said Congress, not the Justice Department, should have the final say on whether betting online is legal.

Note: "Allowing Internet gaming to invade the homes of every American family and to be piped into our dens, living rooms, workplaces, and even our kids' bedrooms and dorm rooms is a major decision," Haley wrote in a Monday letter to congressional leaders. "We must carefully examine the short- and long-term social and economic consequences before Internet gambling spreads."

USA Today: Bush 41 endorses Lee Atwater's widow for education post

<http://onpolitics.usatoday.com/2014/03/26/george-h-w-bush-lee-atwater-widow-sally-education/>

Catalina Camia

Lee Atwater helped George H.W. Bush get elected president in 1988. Now, Bush is giving his support to Atwater's widow in her bid for elective office. The 41st president endorsed Sally Atwater, an elementary school teacher, who is running for superintendent of education in South Carolina.

Note: She told The State that she was inspired to run for office by South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley's education plan. Atwater is in an eight-candidate GOP field for the education job.

DSS Hearing News:

The State: DSS director to testify before Senate panel next month

[http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/26/3349635/dss-director-to-testify-before.html?](http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/26/3349635/dss-director-to-testify-before.html?sp=/99/132/312/169/1084/#storylink=cpy)

[sp=/99/132/312/169/1084/#storylink=cpy](http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/26/3349635/dss-director-to-testify-before.html?sp=/99/132/312/169/1084/#storylink=cpy)

Jamie Self

The director of the S.C. Department of Social Services will testify next month before a state Senate panel tasked with reviewing complaints about the agency. Director Lillian Koller has agreed to testify April 16, said Sen. Tom Young, R-Aiken, the chairman of a special DSS oversight committee meeting for the fourth time Wednesday morning.

Associated Press: Mother who adopted teen says DSS needs to do more

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4XMGuB0Z

Meg Kinnard

A Greenville woman told lawmakers Wednesday that Department of Social Services officials misinformed her family about the difficulties of adopting a teenage boy out of foster care, a situation she said has caused them immeasurable strain.

Greenville News: DSS not asking for more caseworkers, senator says

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20140326/NEWS03/303260054/DSS-not-asking-more-caseworkers-senator-says>

Tim Smith

The state Department of Social Services has not asked for additional caseworkers in five years, according to a state senator who said this morning he doesn't understand why if some caseloads have exceeded 60 cases per worker.

S.C. Political News:

Associated Press: 5 expected Graham GOP challengers file paperwork

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=fo7Dt5YP

All five of the expected Republican primary challengers to U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham have filed their paperwork and paid the \$10,440 fee to run. State Sen. Lee Bright or Roebuck and Lowcountry businesswoman Nancy Mace each went to the South Carolina Election Commission on Wednesday to write a check and file paperwork.

Legislative Session News:

The State: Glenn McConnell looking at being both lieutenant governor, college president

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/26/3350134/glenn-mcconnell-looking-at-being.html?sp=/99/132/312/169/#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain

Lt. Gov. Glenn McConnell said Wednesday that he is investigating whether he can remain in office for several months while working as president of the College of Charleston. Senate President Pro Tempore John Courson, next in line if the lieutenant governor's office comes open, has said he does not want to leave his leadership position.

The State: New CofC president Glenn McConnell to receive \$188,000 in state pay

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/26/3349358/new-cofc-president-glenn-mcconnell.html?sp=/99/132/312/169/1084/#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain

A South Carolina panel agreed Wednesday to pay new College of Charleston president Glenn McConnell \$188,000 in state salary. The lieutenant governor was chosen by college trustees Saturday to succeed George Benson, who is leaving after seven years at the end of June.

Associated Press: SC House approves presidential primary bill

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=5NBv1KsM

The House has approved a bill clarifying that the State Election Commission is responsible for South Carolina's future presidential primaries. The measure approved Wednesday would delete from state law a reference to the 2008 election cycle. Future presidential primaries will be funded through the budget like any other election, offset by filing fees paid by candidates.

South Carolina News:

Greenville News: State, HP in mediation over child support computer system

http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20140326/NEWS03/303260060/State-HP-mediation-over-child-support-computer-system?nclick_check=1

Tim Smith

The state and Hewlett Packard are in mediation over a long-delayed computerized child support enforcement project, a state official told senators this morning. The project, which has been decades in the making, has drawn more than \$100 million in penalties from the federal government over the years.

Post and Courier: Attorneys granted extension in Harrell case

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140326/PC1603/140329492/1177/attorneys-granted-extension-in-harrell-case>

Jeremy Borden

A decision on whether the attorney general should be removed from a grand jury investigation against S.C. House Speaker Bobby Harrell will likely come later than expected. Attorneys for Harrell and Attorney

General Alan Wilson have been granted an extension to file briefs through the close of business Friday instead of today, one of Harrell's attorneys, Bart Daniel, confirmed.

Local News:

Greenville News: Housing prices increase in Greenville market

http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20140326/BUSINESS/303260037/Housing-prices-increase-Greenville-market?nclick_check=1

Woody White

Home prices in the Greenville metro area are running counter to national prices — in a good way. Residential real estate prices nationally fell in January for the third straight month, data out Tuesday showed, with a cold month, a short supply of inventory and climbing mortgage rates driving down demand.

National News:

Associated Press: Millions Could Get Extra Time for Health Sign-Ups

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_HEALTH_OVERHAUL_EXTENSION?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-03-26-13-43-48

Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar

Millions of Americans could get extra time to enroll for taxpayer-subsidized coverage this year under President Barack Obama's health care law. That would let the administration boost sign-ups and aid Democrats under attack over the program's troubles.

Brian Symmes

Direct Line: (803) 734-0304

Cell: (803) 673-9437