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Subject: Morning Clips – Monday, September 21, 2015

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## Morning Clips – Monday, September 21, 2015

### S.C. Political News:

**Post and Courier:** Palmetto Sunrise: Week of presidential candidate visits

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150921/PC1603/150929911>

Cynthia Roldan

Got presidential candidate fever? Well, you're in luck. Seven Republican candidates will be making their way through South Carolina, starting Tuesday. Catch Carly Fiorina at a national security forum at The Citadel at 12 p.m., on Tuesday. She'll later make her way to the Greater Lowcountry Republican Club, which meets at the Charleston County Club, at 1:30 p.m.

**Sun News:** Russell Fry sworn in as S.C. House 106 representative

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article35855208.html>

Charles D. Perry

Russell Fry was sworn in Saturday as the new state representative for the South Strand. The 30-year-old attorney defeated Horry County Councilman Tyler Servant in last month's Republican Primary for the S.C. House District 106 seat. He was unopposed in Tuesday's general election.

**Post and Courier:** Mayoral candidate Toby Smith envisions a better Charleston with more people at the table

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150921/PC16/150929997>

Diane Knich

Toby Smith sat on a concrete bench on the site of the future International African American Museum last week, looked out toward the harbor, and pondered the history of her ancestors. She loves coming to the spot, which sits on the former Gadsden's Wharf, next to the Maritime Center on the Cooper River.

### Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

**Sun News:** Tougher domestic violence penalties may reduce number of women killed

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/opinion/editorials/article35617443.html>

Editorial

South Carolina may break away from its shameful ranking as the worst state in the nation for deadly violence against women, thanks to a new law relating to prosecution of domestic violence cases. The law increases penalties for offenders and gives prosecutors more options, which, over time, could reduce the number of women killed by men.

**Note:** After wide discussion in the General Assembly, legislators approved changes in the law and Gov. Nikki Haley signed it.

**Post and Courier:** Seek nearly painless gas tax hike

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150921/PC1002/150929937>

Editorial

Charleston drivers aren't just paying less at the gas pump than they were this time last year. They are paying the lowest prices in the nation, according to a recent report by a California survey company. That report and data collected by Gasbuddy.com show prices dropping across the nation, with South Carolina among a few states with average prices below \$2 per gallon.

**Florence Morning News:** It's time to expand Medicaid in our state

[http://www.snow.com/opinion/editorials/article\\_e4a0151e-5f1f-11e5-874e-0ff13fac0500.html](http://www.snow.com/opinion/editorials/article_e4a0151e-5f1f-11e5-874e-0ff13fac0500.html)

Editorial

Let's play a little word association. When we say "Medicaid," some people hear "welfare." When we say

"Affordable Care Act," some people hear "Obamacare." When we say "poor," some people hear "slackers." When Republicans hear the words "Medicaid expansion," we hear them say "no" (sometimes preceded by a four-letter modifier for emphasis).

**Note:** South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley swore then that she would never expand Medicaid in the state, and she has not budged an inch from that position.

**Post and Courier:** Congress should save Ex-Im Bank

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150921/PC1002/150929938>

Editorial

Congress has less than two weeks to keep the Ex-Im Bank alive and restore its lending authority, which expired on June 30. A majority of both chambers favors doing this, but it is blocked by a stubborn group of House Republicans.

**Post and Courier:** State to review financing method for South Carolina nuclear plant

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150920/PC05/150929989/state-to-review-financing-method-for-south-carolina-nuclear-plant>

David Wren

South Carolina's Office of Regulatory Staff, a state agency charged with representing the public's interest in utility regulation, will conduct an independent analysis of a law that's helped lead to annual rate increases totaling 27.7 percent in SCE&G customers' bills. The agency made the announcement last week after months of urging by consumers and groups like AARP and the S.C. Small Business Chamber of Commerce.

**Aiken Standard:** Add greater regulations for auto manufacturers

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20150920/AIK02/150929994/1018/AIK02>

Editorial

Two fiascos that unraveled last week highlight the need for stronger regulations on car manufacturers. On Thursday, General Motors agreed to write a \$900 million check to consumers for concealing a deadly ignition switch from regulators. Then, on Friday, the Environmental Protection Agency alleged that Volkswagen installed "defeat devices" in its four-cylinder diesel cars in order to circumvent emissions testing.

## South Carolina News:

**Anderson Independent:** Local and state unemployment rates on sharp decline

[http://www.independentmail.com/news/local-and-state-unemployment-rates-on-sharp-decline\\_30978110](http://www.independentmail.com/news/local-and-state-unemployment-rates-on-sharp-decline_30978110)

Abe Hardesty

Anderson County's unemployment rate fell in August, following a statewide trend. Anderson's unemployment rate fell from 5.9 percent to 5.6 percent. Only eight of South Carolina's 46 counties had a lower rate, according to estimates released Friday by the state Department of Employment and Workforce. However, the number of employed also fell — from 83,657 in July to 83,155 in August.

**Post and Courier:** Questions about DNA, other evidence could be prosecution hurdle in Walter Scott shooting

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150920/PC16/150929961>

Andrew Knapp

From the day of the shooting, Michael Slager's reason for killing Walter Scott centered on his Taser. The North Charleston police officer said Scott had taken it, so he fired his pistol to stop the threat. When lab experts later examined the Taser, they picked up signs of DNA from both men.

**Post and Courier:** Emanuel AME victims' families, survivors wait as loose ends hang

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150921/PC16/150929951>

Andrew Knapp, Jennifer Berry Hawes

Three months after the June 17 massacre at Emanuel AME Church, victims' families and survivors of the tragedy still wait. And wait. Those most traumatized by the nine deaths are waiting to hear when — and how — millions of dollars people have donated to them, both through a city of Charleston fund and the church, will be divided up.

**Spartanburg Herald Journal:** Speakers criticize refugee resettlement program

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20150920/ARTICLES/150929988/1083/ARTICLES?Title=Speakers->

## [criticize-refugee-resettlement-program](#)

Chris Lavender

Speakers at an anti-refugee-resettlement summit held Sunday at Byrnes High School criticized the program as well as immigration enforcement. Michael Cutler, a retired Immigration and Naturalization Services agent, was the summit's keynote speaker.

### **Sumter Item:** State housing market improves

<http://theitem.com/stories/state-housing-market-improves,254595>

Jim Hilley

The South Carolina real estate market is improving, according to the South Carolina Realtors' August housing market reports, but the Sumter and Clarendon county market lagged behind the statewide number.

### **Spartanburg Herald Journal:** State secondary roads in county set for paving

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20150920/ARTICLES/150929994/1083/ARTICLES?Title=State-secondary-roads-in-county-set-for-paving>

Chris Lavender

Segments on five state secondary roadways in Spartanburg County will be paved providing an easier drive for motorists. More than 15 miles of New Cut Road, 3.70 miles of John Dodd Road, 2.85 miles of Anderson Mill Road, 2.77 miles of Parris Bridge Road and 7.81 miles of Duncan Reidville Road will be paved.

### **Aiken Standard:** Safety pause to be discussed at Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board meeting

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20150920/AIK0101/150929940/1004>

Derrek Asberry

The Savannah River Site's Citizens Advisory Board will ask questions about the improper storage of plutonium that helped lead to a halt of non-essential operations for the site's management and operations contractor. The advisory board, or CAB, will host its two-day, bimonthly meeting on Monday and Tuesday at the New Ellenton Community Center, 212 Pine Hill Ave. in New Ellenton.

## **Local News:**

### **Beaufort Gazette:** School board chairman: Why I support Superintendent Moss

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article35866173.html>

Bill Evans

There are a number of people who will read this who know me and accept what I say and others who I may convert to understanding my point of view. There are obviously others who will not accept my position or rationale and that is understandable also.

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