

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Thursday, September 2, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Gov. Nikki Haley promises to work toward continued growth in jobs

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141002/PC1603/141009871/1031/gov-nikki-haley-promises-to-work-toward-continued-growth-in-jobs>

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley told the Aiken Standard Wednesday that her campaign platform will continue to revolve around job creation as she heads into November's election, according to a story posted today on the newspaper's website.

The Chronicle: October Is Gullah Geechee Month in NC, SC, GA, FL

<http://www.charlestonchronicle.net/87455/2152/october-is-gullah-geechee-month-in-nc-sc-ga-fl>

October 2014 is declared "Gullah Geechee Awareness Month" and "Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Month" in the four states in the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor, which comprises North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

Note: The South Carolina proclamation, signed by Gov. Nikki Haley, states that "increasing awareness and understanding of Gullah Geechee Culture leads to a deeper appreciation for the significant contributions of Gullah Geechee people to our state and nation."

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

Washington Post Morning Bits

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/right-turn/wp/2014/10/02/morning-bits-438/>

Jennifer Rubin

Meanwhile another GOP governor is running away with it in South Carolina. "Gov. Nikki Haley maintains a 10-point lead over her Democratic rival for governor and Republicans in other races also maintain strong leads, according to a new poll from Winthrop University released Wednesday."

Coastal Observer: Politics: Haley rallies GOP support for Goldfinch in House race

<http://www.coastalobserver.com/articles/2014/100214/2.html>

Jason Lesley

Gov. Nikki Haley told Republicans gathered at the Hammock Shops for a rally last week that she needed a fighter in Columbia like Rep. Stephen Goldfinch, the incumbent in House District 108.

Note: "I'm here for one person today, Stephen Goldfinch," Haley told an audience gathered on the deck at Nosh restaurant and under the shops' covered porches during a steady drizzle last Thursday during a "Republican Victory Rally" that also featured U.S. Sen. Tim Scott and U.S. Rep. Tom Rice.

Note: "I know Stephen's opponent, Vida Miller. I know her very well. I served with her multiple years. She is a wonderful woman that I respect, but this is not about respect. This is about the fact I need fighters in Columbia. Stephen Goldfinch is a fighter."

USA Today: Ready for another Bush? Jeb's 2016 advantages, challenges

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/10/02/jeb-bush-2016-white-house-bid/16593057/>

Ledyard King

Not long ago, Jeb Bush seemed content to raise his grandchildren, make lots of money and concentrate on causes he holds dear, notably education reform. He briefly mulled presidential campaigns in 2008 and 2012 before deciding to stay put.

Note: Later this month, he heads to South Carolina, a pivotal primary state popular with would-be White House candidates, to attend a private fundraiser for Gov. Nikki Haley.

The State: Biden coming to Columbia on Oct. 14

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/10/02/3719236/first-on-buzz-biden-coming-to.html>

Andrew Shain

Vice President Joe Biden will visit Columbia on Oct. 14 for a voter rally at Allen University and state Democratic party fundraiser, a source with knowledge of the events told The State. This is Biden's second trip to Columbia this year.

Note: Whether Democratic gubernatorial challenger Vincent Sheheen appears with Biden depends on the timing of the vice president's visit, the source told The State.

Associated Press: Biden returning to South Carolina to campaign

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=hQ9KW6Ud

Josh Lederman

Vice President Joe Biden is returning to South Carolina to help Democrats on the ballot in November. The White House says Biden will travel to Columbia on October 14. He'll speak at a get-out-the-vote event for the South Carolina Democratic Party at Allen University, and he'll headline a fundraiser for the state party.

Associated Press: Graham not participating in debate with opponents

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

Jeffrey Collins

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham has turned down an invitation to debate two of his challengers later this month on South Carolina Educational Television. The debate will go on for 30 minutes with Democratic state Sen. Brad Hutto of Orangeburg and independent candidate Thomas Ravenel of Charleston, ETV spokesman Tom Posey said Thursday.

Post and Courier: Graham turns down invitation to debate opponents

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141002/PC1603/141009856>

Schuyler Kropf

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham might be easy to find on Sunday morning political talk shows but you won't see him on the S.C. ETV Senate candidate debate this year. Graham has turned down an invitation to appear on the network's Oct. 13 debate featuring at least two of his challengers.

Department of Social Services News:

Associated Press: Workloads, turnover plague SC child welfare agency

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

Seanna Adcox

The workers who are supposed to protect South Carolina's most vulnerable children have been burdened with heavy caseloads for years, contributing to chronic high turnover in the Department of Social Services. That's according to a review of data The Associated Press received through a public records request.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley had steadfastly supported her Cabinet pick. But Koller resigned in June under mounting, bipartisan pressure from lawmakers. An agency audit is expected to be released Friday before the Senate hearing.

Greenville News: DSS to hire 125 child welfare workers

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2014/10/02/dss-hire-child-welfare-workers-next-month/16588025/>

Tim Smith

The state's child welfare agency will hire 125 workers next month and provide raises to existing caseworkers and their managers in an effort to boost the beleaguered agency's ranks and cut caseloads. Amber Gillum, acting director of the state Department of Social Services, told GreenvilleOnline.com today she has authorized the hiring of 50 new caseworkers and eight supervisors next month, as well as the hiring of 67 caseworker assistants.

Post and Courier: DSS to give raises, hire more staff by end of 2014

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141002/PC1603/141009862>

Cynthia Roldan

The state's embattled Department of Social Services announced plans Thursday to provide staffers with an immediate pay raise and hire more than 200 workers by the end of this year. DSS Acting Director Amber Gillum said that effective Oct. 1, county DSS caseworkers and supervisors will receive a 10 percent pay

increase.

Note: Its previous director Lillian Koller resigned in July, and Gov. Nikki Haley's handling of DSS has grown as an issue in this fall's gubernatorial campaign.

The State: Social Services: Caseworkers get 10% raises, new hires on the way

http://www.thestate.com/2014/10/02/3719478_social-services-caseworkers-get.html?rh=1

Jamie Self

In a call with The State Thursday, S.C. Department of Social Services acting director Amber Gillum shared a summary of a \$6.4 million plan aimed at relieving workers' heavy caseloads, which critics say threaten the safety of children under the agency's care.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Greenwood Today: Scott hosts info sessions for service academies

<http://gwtdtoday.com/main.asp?SectionID=2&SubSectionID=27&ArticleID=31601>

Brian King

Members of U.S. Sen. Tim Scott's staff were in Greenwood Wednesday answering questions about the rigorous process of earning an appointment to a U.S. service academy. Earning an appointment is no easy task and requires a diverse and committed individual to become a leader of the nation's fighting force

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Lawmakers, parents, patients discuss medical marijuana in Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141002/PC16/141009845>

Lauren Sausser

The General Assembly passed a law this year that makes it legal for some epileptic patients to use CBD oil, also known as cannabis oil or cannabidiol, for treatment. The non-psychoactive oil, derived from marijuana, improves seizures. The problem since the law passed, though, is that it's nearly impossible to find any of the oil in South Carolina.

Associated Press: Price tag for South Carolina nuclear plant could grow by \$1B

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141002/PC05/141009833/1177/price-tag-for-south-carolina-nuclear-plant-could-grow-by-1b>

Ray Henry

The firms building a new nuclear plant in South Carolina say their construction costs could grow by more than \$1 billion. That development is troubling for a nuclear industry trying to prove it can build new power plants without the cost overruns that plagued its projects decades ago.

Aiken Standard: Rep. Wells facing fire over \$50,000 loan given by Brooks

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20141002/AIK0101/141009927/1004/rep-wells-facing-fire-over-50000-loan-given-by-brooks>

Teddy Kulmala

Gasps rippled through the courtroom last month when it was revealed that Jonathan "Jay" Brooks had a promissory note from state Rep. Don Wells regarding a \$50,000 loan that Wells had taken out from Brooks. Brooks pleaded guilty during that Sept. 18 hearing to three counts of securities fraud and two counts of forgery.

Florence Morning News: Domestic violence: Will talk about 'absolutely unacceptable' problem turn to action?

http://www.scnow.com/living/article_eafad2f4-49cd-11e4-adf5-001a4bcf6878.html

Traci Bridges

These days, nearly every cause on Earth has a designated month of awareness, but in a state that ranks second in the nation in women killed by men, local leaders say Domestic Violence Awareness Month needs to be more than a formality in South Carolina.

Sun News: New S.C. promotion offers seniors discounts at restaurants, hotels and attractions

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/10/02/4513103/new-sc-promotion-offers-seniors.html?sp=/99/134/142/#storylink=cpy>

Charles Perry

Alma Parrish never eased off the accelerator. Not when she taught primary school in Illinois for 40 years, not when she raised five sons and certainly not now, at 85 years old, when she spends her time playing bridge, chatting with her knitting group and volunteering at the desk of the Grand Strand Senior Center.

Florence Morning News: Earth moves at I-20/S.C. 340 Industrial Park

http://www.scnw.com/news/business/article_45fea688-49d0-11e4-a572-001a4bcf6878.html

John Russell

The shovels were officially in the ground on Wednesday as local and state officials attended a groundbreaking for the long-awaited Interstate 20/S.C. 340 Industrial Park in Darlington County.

Approximately six years ago, the Darlington County Council bought the 160-acre plot of land with a \$1 million loan from Pee Dee Electric Cooperative. Not much has happened since then.

Local News:

Anderson Independent: Tactical Medical Solutions expanding Anderson County presence

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/tactical-medical-solutions-expanding-anderson-county-presence>

A company specializing in medical and triage supplies for first responders, military and law enforcement agencies is expanding its Anderson County operations. Tactical Medical Solutions, which established a presence in the county in 2006, has invested \$2.5 million to buy 67 acres and build a new corporate office. The expansion is creating 15 additional local jobs.

Sun News: Myrtle Beach gets rid of late-night permitting process for bars, nightclubs

http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/10/02/4512877_myrtle-beach-gets-rid-of-late.html?sp=/99/209/&rh=1#storylink=cpy

Maya T. Prabhu

Maya T. Prabhu

Your favorite Myrtle Beach bar may start staying open later after Myrtle Beach City Council voted last week to eliminate the permitting process for bars and nightclubs that wish to operate after 2 a.m. However, a separate ordinance requires all of those establishments to submit written safety plans to city police.

Greenville News: 'Structural issues' close Cleveland Park bridge

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2014/10/02/structural-issues-force-cleveland-park-bridge-close/16577611/>

Eric Connor

The Woodland Way Bridge in Cleveland Park is closed this morning over structural concerns and is planned to remain off-limits for an undetermined amount of time. The bridge — which crosses the Reedy River at the Canine Corner dog park — is closed to vehicles "as a precautionary measure," city of Greenville spokeswoman Leslie Fletcher said.

Rock Hill Herald: Clover legendary businessman, volunteer Dick Burrell dies in tractor accident

http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/10/02/6383729_clover-legendary-businessman-volunteer.html?rh=1

Andrew Dys

Dick Burrell retired more than 15 years ago after 40 years at the store. But this husband and father and grandfather did not sit in front of a television with his feet up. Burrell, 78, died Tuesday afternoon when he was moving a dead tree with his tractor and a large limb snapped back and hit him.

National News:

Post and Courier: Romney's in demand as Republicans' future unclear

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141002/PC1603/141009867>

Steve Peoples

Almost two years after his Election Day drubbing, Mitt Romney is the Republican man in demand. The twice-defeated White House contender is campaigning across seven states this week, covering nearly 6,000 miles in five days to raise money and energy for Republican midterm candidates from Georgia to Colorado.

Post and Courier: Government website for doctor payments not up to snuff

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141002/PC1603/141009861>

Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar

Another year, another headache for the Obama administration over a health care website. This one is called "Open Payments." The goal was to allow consumers to find out if their doctors are getting drug company

freebies, travel or other financial benefits that could create ethical conflicts.

Washington Post: Growing evidence that Obama's decision to wait on immigration is hurting Democrats
http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/growing-evidence-that-obamas-decision-to-wait-on-immigration-is-hurting-democrats/2014/10/01/8ed108c8-4981-11e4-b72e-d60a9229cc10_story.html

Ed O'Keefe

Less than a month after President Obama announced he would delay using his executive authority to reform immigration laws, there is evidence that the decision is doing exactly what he hoped to avoid: hurting Democrats. Activists in key states say it is increasingly difficult to register would-be Latino voters who would vote for Democrats because of unhappiness over the decision.

Washington Post: Insurers poised to cancel health plans that don't comply with Affordable Care Act
http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/insurers-poised-to-cancel-health-plans-that-dont-comply-with-affordable-care-act/2014/10/02/31525c74-49b3-11e4-891d-713f052086a0_story.html

Julie Appleby

Thousands of consumers who were granted a reprieve to keep insurance plans that do not meet the federal health law's standards are now learning those plans will be discontinued at year's end and they'll have to choose a new, possibly more costly policy.

Brian Symmes

Cell: (803) 673-9437

Direct Line: (803) 734-0304