

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
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Subject: Morning Clips – Wednesday, July 23, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Greenville News: Haley appoints Mike Campbell to state post

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/07/22/haley-appoints-mike-campbell-state-post/13015145/>

Tim Smith

Gov. Nikki Haley is appointing Mike Campbell to the South Carolina Workers' Compensation Commission. Campbell, who ran unsuccessfully this year to become the Republican nominee for lieutenant governor, is a business development consultant.

Note: "Mike Campbell is committed to making South Carolina a better place to live, work and raise a family, and I am confident that his professional background will serve the commission well," said Gov. Nikki Haley. "As a small businessman and someone who cares deeply about his community, Mike's experience will give him the insight needed to be both business-friendly and fair — exactly the qualities we want our commissioners to have."

WBTW: Horry County rushes to meet deadline to keep mentally ill from buying guns

<http://www.wbtw.com/story/26087549/horry-county-rushes-to-meet-deadline-to-keep-mentally-ill-from-buying-guns>

Erika Hayes

South Carolina passed a law in May 2013 aimed at keeping the mentally ill from buying handguns. But if probate courts across the state don't meet an upcoming deadline, guns could end up in the wrong hands.

Note: The bill, signed into law by Governor Nikki Haley, ensures the names of residents declared mentally ill by a South Carolina court go into a federal database, so the names will show up on background checks.

Associated Press: Govs. Christie, Haley visit Colorado

http://www.scnw.com/news/national/article_d6ab3898-1255-11e4-af9f-0017a43b2370.html

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie is visiting political battleground Colorado for a fundraiser with the state's GOP gubernatorial candidate, Bob Beauprez, before heading to Aspen for events with other party leaders. One of them is a discussion with Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, Florida Gov. Rick Scott and Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

WACH: Palmetto Politics Poll: Haley poised for second term

<http://www.wach.com/news/story.aspx?id=1073578#.U8-WDvldV1Z>

Brian McConchie

Voters don't head back to the polls until November to cast their ballots for South Carolina governor, but if the election were held today new numbers indicate Governor Nikki Haley would win a second term in office. Palmetto Politics Poll data from 1,000 likely South Carolina voters shows Haley would once again edge democratic Senator Vincent Sheheen just like she did in 2010's history-making election.

Post and Courier: Poll: Nikki Haley's lead over Democrat Vincent Sheheen is slim in four-way governor's race

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140722/PC1603/140729812/1031&source=speed>

Cynthia Roldan, Jeremy Borden

The poll of likely voters commissioned by The Post and Courier and three television stations shows that in a matchup with Democrat Vincent Sheheen, Haley leads Sheheen by four percentage points - within the poll's 4 percent margin of error. Haley led overall with 46 percent support of those polled among the 650 likely voters surveyed.

WCIV: Poll: Haley vulnerable heading into 2014 general election

<http://www.abcnews4.com/story/26084559/poll-haley-vulnerable-heading-into-2014-general-election>

Incumbent South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has a small lead over challenger and state Sen. Vincent Sheheen, according to new polling data released Tuesday and conducted on behalf of ABC News 4 and The Post and Courier. According to the Voter Survey Service poll, Haley has a 13-point lead, 53-40, over Sheheen with 7 percent undecided in the race when the two top contenders are compared head-to-head.

Greenville News: Sheheen road-fix plan has GOP supporter

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/07/22/vincent-sheheen-sc-roads-fix/12988217/>

Tim Smith

South Carolina lawmakers should set aside \$500 million a year to spend on road and bridge repairs, the state's Democratic nominee for governor says. Any more than that, Sen. Vincent Sheheen said Tuesday, is financially unrealistic. Grooms told The Greenville News that he supports Sheheen's plan.

Note: "Although Vince Sheheen has previously said his roads plan included tax and fee increases, we are pleased to see that as election day draws nearer, he has decided to copy the governor's plan — and spend money the legislature already has," said Chaney Adams, a Haley campaign spokesman.

SCRN: Sheheen's road funding proposal rejects gas tax

<http://www.southcarolinaradionetwork.com/2014/07/22/sheheens-road-funding-proposal-rejects-gas-tax/>

Matt Long

Democratic candidate for governor Vincent Sheheen said Tuesday that he does not think South Carolina should increase its gas tax to pay for badly-needed road repairs. Instead he is pushing a plan that would borrow up to \$1 billion and redirect millions more from elsewhere in the state budget.

Note: Haley's campaign spokesman Chaney Adams told the Associated Press the governor "is glad" Sheheen supports what the governor has always backed — finding money already in the budget instead of raising taxes.

The State: Sheheen: \$500 million for roads, no gas tax hike

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/22/3577105/sheheen-roads-plan-would-set-500.html>

Jamie Self

To the disappointment of business groups, raising the gas tax is not part of state Sen. Vincent Sheheen's plan for meeting the state's multibillion-dollar road needs, released Tuesday by the Democratic candidate for governor.

Note: "Although Vince Sheheen has previously said his roads plan included tax and fee increases, we are pleased to see that as Election Day draws nearer, he has decided to copy the governor's plan — and spend money the Legislature already has," said Chaney Adams, a Haley spokesman.

Aiken Standard: Sellers hits six points of need for senior care

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140723/AIK0101/140729813/1004/sellers-hits-six-points-of-need-for-senior-care>

Mayaan Shechter

South Carolina Rep. Bakari Sellers is nowhere near needing senior care, but he's already mapped out six steps focusing on senior needs. Sellers, D-Denmark, is currently campaigning for the state's lieutenant governor seat; and as part of his campaign, he visited the Aiken Area Council on Aging on Tuesday to share his "South Carolina Senior Plan."

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Timely pay hike for educators

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140723/PC1002/140729773/1021/timely-pay-hike-for-educators>

Editorial

More money isn't the answer to every school need. But giving educators fair wages is essential to attracting and retaining the best for our students. Last week the Charleston County School District announced pay raises totaling \$8.4 million, most of it going to teachers and principals, who were earning less on average than their contemporaries in similar districts in the region.

Post and Courier: Border neglect's costly fallout

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140723/PC1002/140729772/1021>

Editorial

Responsibility for national border security legally - and logically - belongs to the national government. But the Obama administration's persistent abdication of that duty has moved numerous states, including South Carolina, to pass immigration laws of their own.

Greenville News: Ruling further undermines FOIA

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/editorials/2014/07/22/editorial-ruling-undermines-foia/13003707/>

Editorial

The South Carolina Supreme Court last week dealt another serious blow to the public's ability to know what government officials are doing with a curiously reasoned ruling that autopsy records are exempt from the state Freedom of Information Act because they are medical records.

The State: Who says charity is its own reward? SC law gives donors up to \$1.42 for every \$1 they "donate" to subsidize private schools

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/22/3578079/scoppe-who-says-charity-is-its.html#storylink=cpy>

Cindi Ross Scoppe

I THOUGHT I had figured out all the angles on the throw-tax-dollars-at-private-schools schemes that our legislators are afraid to oppose. At the top, the big spenders from other states who have been buying up our legislators hope to slash the size of government the nation over.

Times and Democrat: United Way has good news amid Kids Count report

http://thetandd.com/news/united-way-has-good-news-amid-kids-count-report/article_9cc2fb64-11da-11e4-bc2e-001a4bcf887a.html

Editorial

THE ISSUE: Well-being of children. OUR OPINION: Numbers on education, poverty, race illustrate why local kids among those most at risk. The annual Kids Count has never been good news for South Carolina. 2014 is no exception. Produced since 1990, the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Kids Count Data Book on child well-being is in its 25th year.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Greenville News: Mulvaney seeks leadership position in House

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/07/22/mulvaney-seeks-leadership-position-house/13023325/>

Mary Troyan

Rep. Mick Mulvaney of Indian Land is campaigning to become chairman of the Republican Study Committee, a large coalition of conservative House members in Congress. The RSC's goal is to be a conservative influence on economic and social policy within the party.

South Carolina News:

Greenville News: Court rulings again put legal eye on Obamacare

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/health/2014/07/22/court-rulings-put-legal-eye-obamacare/13012935/>

Liv Osby

Health insurance subsidies in South Carolina and other states that use a federal marketplace to administer Obamacare were both upheld and struck down by two separate courts Tuesday, possibly setting the stage for the Supreme Court to decide the matter.

Aiken Standard: Advisory board renews position against spent fuel at SRS

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140723/AIK0101/140729779/1004/advisory-board-renews-position-against-spent-fuel-at-srs>

Derrek Asberry

The Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board renewed its 2013 position paper taking a stance against the Site becoming an interim storage site for commercial spent nuclear fuel. The board, also known as CAB, put the issue to a vote Tuesday on the second day of its bimonthly meeting. The results came out in an overwhelming 16-0 decision opposing shipments of spent fuel.

Associated Press: Clemson shows off rebuilt SC Botanical Gardens

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=IhZ2eeiR

Clemson University is showing off the repairs made to the South Carolina Botanical Gardens after torrential rains last July destroyed trails and swept away more than 1,000 varieties of plants. The garden turned to students in the university's architecture program to help rebuild bridges and trails.

Local News:

Island Packet: More private carriers entering Beaufort County coastal insurance market

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/07/22/3222722/more-private-carriers-entering.html?sp=/99/100/&ihp=1>

Dan Burley

More private insurers are selling wind coverage to coastal property owners in Beaufort County, leading to a decline in the number of homeowners in the state wind pool. The increase in private insurers could mean lower rates for customers, insurance agents said Tuesday.

Island Packet: Attempts to revive sales tax proposal fall short under tight deadline

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/07/22/3222740/attempts-to-revive-sales-tax-proposal.html?sp=/99/257/266/>

Zach Murdock

Some are holding out hope that County Council will reconsider its decision last month to quash a referendum or at least approve a scaled-down version of the \$221 million plan to pay for 21 capital projects.

The State: Sunday beer, wine sales plan includes Lexington County towns – for now

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/22/3578409/sunday-beer-wine-sales-plan-includes.html>

Tim Flach

Lexington County Council is including 11 municipalities on a countywide referendum to allow purchase of six-packs of beer and bottles of wine on Sundays – even though leaders in some of those towns want to keep the ban.

The State: United Way homeless report shows increased needs

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/22/3578610/united-way-homeless-report-shows.html>

Bertram Rantin

The United Way of the Midlands has released a report on homelessness that agency officials are hoping will help identify gaps in housing and services for the region's homeless population.

National News:

New York Times: New Questions on Health Law as Rulings on Subsidies Differ

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/23/us/court-rules-against-obamacare-exchange-subsidies.html?ref=todayspaper&_r=0

Robert Pear

Two federal appeals court panels issued conflicting rulings Tuesday on whether the government could subsidize health insurance premiums for millions of Americans, raising yet more questions about the future of the health care law four years after it was signed by President Obama.

New York Times: Plan for Young Migrants at Impasse in Congress

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/23/us/plan-for-young-migrants-at-impasse-in-congress.html?ref=todayspaper>

Ashley Parker, Jeremy Peters

Lawmakers are deadlocked on a plan to deal with the surge in migrant children who are filling detention centers along the Mexican border, with both Democrats and Republicans saying Tuesday that it was increasingly unlikely they could reach an accord before Congress leaves town for a five-week recess at the end of the month.

Washington Post: Kerry in Israel to push for Gaza cease-fire

http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/kerry-in-israel-to-push-for-cess-fire/2014/07/23/4d902146-123b-11e4-98ee-daea85133bc9_story.html?hpid=z1

Anne Gearan, Sudarsan Raghavan

Secretary of State John F. Kerry flew to Israel on Wednesday to push for a cease-fire in the 16-day-old

conflict with Hamas militants. Kerry planned to see Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas and other officials.