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Nick Andrew Theodore
(b.1928)
Papers, 1960-1999

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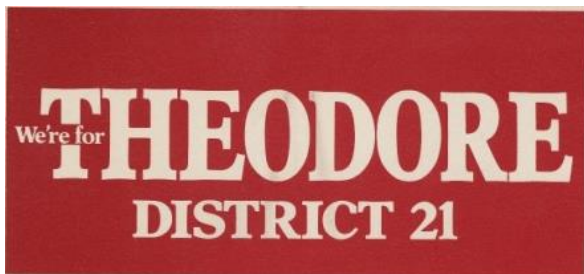
Biographical Note:

Nick Theodore was born on September 16, 1928 in Greenville, SC to Andrew and Lula Theodore who had emigrated from Greece. In 1952, he graduated from Furman University with a Bachelor's degree in Business. He married Emilie Demosthenes of Savannah, Georgia in 1955. They have three children, Drew, Angela, and Stephanie, and twelve grandchildren.

Theodore became interested in politics at a young age. He was elected president of his senior class at Greenville High School and was elected Master Counselor of the Order of DeMolay, an international fraternal organization for young men ages 12 to 21. Upon graduating Furman University with a Bachelor of Business degree, he opened an insurance business. He became active in the Chamber of Commerce, Red Cross, Greenville Museum of Art, and the Little Theater. The Greenville Jaycees named him "Rookie of the Year." In 1957-1958, he was president of the Greenville chapter and in 1961-1962, he was president of the South Carolina Jaycees. In 1962, Theodore was named Outstanding Young Man of Greenville and South Carolina. Theodore is also active with St. George Greek Orthodox Church, where he has served as a deacon. He served on the Board of Trustees of the University of South Carolina as well as the Boards of Visitors at Clemson University, Winthrop University, and The Citadel.



In 1963, Theodore became the first Hellenic-American elected to the South Carolina State Legislature. This began a twenty-four year tenure in state government before being elected Lieutenant Governor. He served in the House from 1963 to 1966 and 1970 to 1978 and in the Senate from 1967 to 1968 and 1981 to 1986. In the General Assembly, he held many posts including Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee, Chairman of the Joint Legislative State Employees Committee, and Co-Chairman of the South Carolina Commission on Government Restructuring. Theodore authored several pieces of legislation to improve education, including the Education Finance Act of 1977, and helped establish the Restructuring of the Higher Education Commission. He also created the Crime Victims Bill of Rights and pushed the bills requiring mandatory jail sentences for armed robbers and allowing drivers to turn right on red.



In 1986, Theodore won the race for Lieutenant Governor and Carroll Campbell won the race for Governor. Campbell had beaten Theodore in a 1978 race for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, one of the first major victories for Republican strategist Lee Atwater. They were each re-elected in 1990. Though Campbell was a Republican and Theodore was a Democrat, they

were able to work together effectively during their eight years in office.

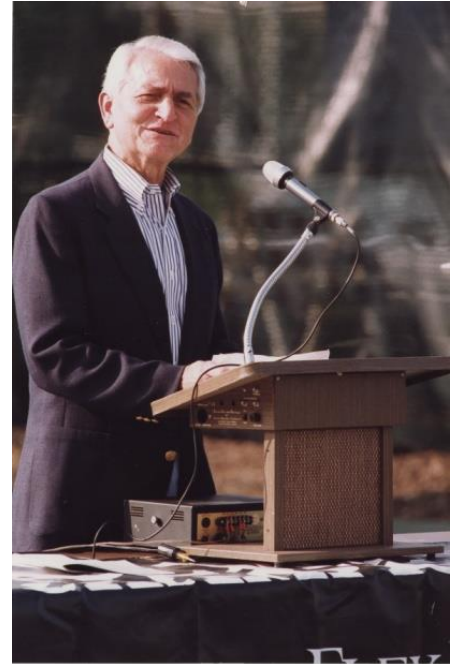
Theodore won the Democratic nomination for Governor in 1994 over Charleston Mayor Joe Riley. However, he lost the general election to David Beasley, Campbell's protégé. Theodore tried to regain the Lieutenant Governor position in 1998, but lost to incumbent Bob Peeler in the general election. In 2002, Theodore accepted an appointment as Interim Commissioner for the Public Service Commission.

Scope & Content Note:

The papers consist of 6 linear feet of material arranged in five series: Public, Personal, Speeches, Clippings, and Audio/Visual.

The public papers focus on Theodore's time in the General Assembly. The largest category of topical material is education. Materials of interest are the Education Finance Act, which Theodore helped write in his time as Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee, and the Education Improvement Act.

Personal papers are chiefly from his campaigns for Lieutenant Governor and Governor. Included are campaign memos, programs from fundraisers, and miscellaneous notes from the election. Also in this section are documents from his time in the Jaycees and his involvement in the Greek Orthodox Church.



Speeches are arranged chronologically, 1974 to 2007, with over 20 undated speeches as well. Most



of the speeches are final drafts that Theodore gave to various organizations during his years as Lieutenant Governor, 1987 to 1994.

Clippings are arranged by topic, the bulk covering the 1994 election. Clippings from the 1986 and 1990 elections, activity with the Jaycees, and his time in the General Assembly are also present.

A significant portion of this collection is photographs. There are many from campaign events and fundraisers, photos of Theodore with Campbell at different events,

such as the Mellow Yellow 500, and an album of photos from his visit to Sumter School District in 1987.

Box List:

Public:

General
Child Care
Child Protection
Constitution Bicentennial
Crime
Economic Development and Budget (2 folders)
Education:
 General (2 folders)
 "An Era for Education: Report of the House Committee on Education and Public Works," 1978
 Budget
 Charter Schools
 Education Commission
 Education Finance Act, 1977
 Education Improvement Act, 1985
Environment
Judiciary
Medical
Patriotism
Restructuring:
 General
 S.C. Commission on Government Restructuring Working Draft "Modernizing South Carolina
 State Government for the Twenty-first Century", 1991
Seniors
Women's Rights

Box 1

Personal

General (3 folders)
Campaigns:
 Governor (3 folders), 1994
 Lieutenant Governor:
 1986-1995 (2 folders)
 1998 (2 folders)
 State Representative, 1968-1978
 State Senate, 1980-1984
Democratic Party, "Repackaging the Democratic Party: An Action Plan," 1994
Greek Orthodox Church
Jaycees:
 General
 Programs
 Publications:
 "Action":
 1959-1961

 1962 (2 folders)
 "Spotlight"

Box 2

Box 3

Speeches

1975, Mar. 22 Greek Festival

1977, Nov. 8 Alcohol & Drug Abuse Association, Pawley's Island
1984, May 2 Committee on Aging
1985, Oct. 2 Education
1986:
 June 2 Stump Speech, WSPA-TV
 Dec. 6 Pickens County Democratic Party
1987:
 Apr. 2 Sertoma Club National Heritage Awards, Aiken
 Apr. 4 Police Department Dedication Ceremony in Anderson
 Apr. 4 Liberty Chamber of Commerce
 Apr. 6 Greenville PTA
 Apr. 20 Hazardous Waste Task Force
 Apr. 21 Spartanburg Chamber of Commerce
 May 8 Columbia Chapter of Crime Prevention
 May 11 Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce
 May 11 Greenville County Child Care Association
 June 29 Abbeville Development Board
 July 21 Berkeley Chamber of Commerce
 Sept. 9 Western South Carolina International Trade Association
 Sept. 10 Hardeeville Chamber of Commerce
 Sept. 15 Anderson Rotary Club
 Oct. 15 Conference on Infant Mortality and Teen Pregnancy
 Oct. 27 Simpsonville Lions Club
 Nov. 11 York County Democrats "South Carolina Democrats Look to the Future"
 Dec. 17 Florence West Rotary Club
 Dec. 17 Spartanburg Municipal Association
 Dec. 20 Men's Club of Temple of Israel
1988:
 Jan. 23 Democrat's Workshop, Columbia
 Apr. 7 Clemson University Cooperative Service Banquet
 Apr. 8 Anderson Hospice Program
 Apr. 8 Seneca High School
 May 23 Bicentennial of the Ratification of the Constitution by South Carolina
 June 16 Rock Hill Kiwanis Club
 June 23 Hampton County Watermelon Festival
 July 13 South Carolina Hospital Association
 July 25 Newberry Chamber of Commerce
 Aug. 16 DSS Child Care Workers
 Aug. 18 Savannah River Plant
 Sept 13 Southside High School Constitution Day
 Sept. 20 Laurens County Literacy Council
 Oct. 8 Coastal Electric Cooperative, Walterboro
 Nov. 6 Veteran's Memorial, Rock Hill
 Nov. 10 Hazardous Waste Task Force
 Nov. 16 Farm City Week Kickoff Luncheon
 Dec. 22 Florence Centennial
1989:
 Jan. 11 Young Democrats National Convention, Columbia
 Jan. 18 Freedom Shrine Dedication, Exchange Club, Greenville
 Jan. 19 25th Anniversary of Beckman Mental Health Center
 Feb. 3 South Carolina Council on Family Relations

Feb. 10	Dorchester County Economic Development Board
Feb. 12	Palmetto State Law Enforcement Association
Feb. 15	Sarah Nance Elementary School
Feb. 17	Golden State Vocational School
Feb. 23	Alcohol & Drug Abuse on the College Campus
Feb. 23	Calhoun Convalescent Center
Mar. 17	Junior Scholars/Future Teachers
Mar. 28	South Carolina Association of College Stores
Apr. 13	Williamsburg Adult Education Awareness Program
Apr. 21	Clemson University Child Care/Scholarship Program
May 5	Adopt-a-Library Contributors
May 8	Liberty High School Annual Awards Banquet
June 1	15 th Graduating Class, Leadership Greenville
June 5	West Minister Presbyterian Men's Club
June 14	Council on Military Education
June 16	Palmetto Girls/Boy's State Inauguration
June 27	Independent Insurance Agents
July 12	Woodmen of the World
July 26	Blue Ridge Institute for Southern Community Service Executives
July 29	Older Adults in Greenville County
Aug. 1	South Carolina Chamber of Commerce Legal & Legislative Conference
Aug. 4	Commission on the Future of South Carolina
Aug. 17	Dorman High School, Spartanburg
Aug. 17	South Carolina Association of Extension Home Economics
Aug. 24	Dillon County Chamber of Commerce
Aug. 29	Darlington Southern 500 Press Conference
Sept. 13	Clinton AARP Group
Sept. 19	Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce
Sept. 19	Chester Rotary Club
Oct. 10	Leadership York County
Nov. 3	H.B. Swofford Vocational Center
Nov. 4	American Association of University Professionals
Nov. 7	Hugo Impact on the Economy
Nov. 23	Press Meeting in Lieutenant Governor's Office on Negative Campaigns
Nov. 30	Palmetto Leadership Conference
1990:	
Jan. 10	Solid Waste Management Task Force Public Hearing
Jan. 23	Business & Arts Partnership Awards
Feb. 13	Carolina Eastern Ladies Night
Feb. 14	South Carolina Association of Auditors, Treasurers, & Tax Collectors
Feb. 15	South Carolina Medical Association
Feb. 19	Wreath Laying Ceremony for George Washington's Birthday
Feb. 22	South Carolina Association for Counseling & Development
Feb. 23	Greenville "Million Dollar Club" Board of Realtors
Feb. 23	South Carolina Dairy Farmers Association
Mar. 22	Ribbon Cutting at Florence Mall Recycling Center
Mar. 28	Women of Achievement Awards Luncheon
Mar. 29	Citizens with Seniority Conference
Apr. 6	Inauguration of Citadel President
Apr. 20	Junior Scholars/Future Teachers Program
Apr. 30	South Carolina Public Service

- May 1 Anderson School Districts 1&2
May 4 Adult Education Graduation at Greenville High
June 13 Education & Missionary Convention, Charleston
Aug. 14 Education Task Force/General Session, National Conference of Lieutenant
 Governors, Iowa
Aug. 22 Ethics Press Conference
Sept. 16 Mauldin's Constitution Day Celebration
Nov. 6 Election Night
Nov. 16 Third Grade Class at Plain Elementary, Simpsonville
Dec. 2 Christmas Tree Lighting
- 1991:
- Jan. 8 Opening Day of Session
Jan. 9 Exchange Club of Charleston
Jan. 24 "America Supports Americans" Rally, Great Falls
Jan. 30 South Carolina School Boards Association
Feb. 15 Hillcrest High School
Feb. 22 Greater Mullins Chamber of Commerce
Feb. 22 Press Association Luncheon
Mar. 2 South Carolina Middle School Association
Mar. 22 State Convention for Student Councils
Apr. 5 South Carolina Society of Ophthalmology
May 17 South Carolina Textile Manufacturers Association
July 26 Roast Rebuttal
Aug. 12 Post Legislative Session Briefing
Sept. 14 Clover Fest Opening Ceremony
Sept. 15 Mauldin Constitution Celebration
Sept. 17 Citizenship Day Flag Raising
Sept. 17 Pendleton Place Children's Shelter
Oct. 9 Columbia & State Chamber of Commerce
Oct. 15 Rotary Club of the Foothills
Oct. 21 National Pest Control Association
Oct. 24 Budget and Control Board
- 1992:
- Jan. 16 South Carolina Associated Public Safety Communications Conference
Jan. 18 Pickens County Democratic Party
Jan. 30 Governor's Conference on Tourism & Travel
Feb. 3 Charleston Lions Club
Feb. 19 South Carolina Association of Counties
Feb. 25 Farm Bureau Legislative Banquet
Mar. 3 Talking Points on State Government, "We the People"
Mar. 19 Kershaw County Education Association
Mar. 20 South Carolina Technical Education Association Spring Conference
Mar. 31 Ridgeland Rotary Club
May 12 Jasper County School Appreciation Night
May 16 South Carolina Textile Manufacturers Association
May 21 Old Ninety Six District Tourism Commission Appreciation Night
Aug. 22 Greenville County Democratic Party
Sept. 13 Hampton & Varnville United Methodist Churches
Oct. 29 Young Democrats Clinton-Gore Rally
Dec. 8 Politics and Mass Media Class at USC and Ft. Jackson
- 1993:

Jan. 8 "Theodore '94: A Vision for Leadership," SC Chiropractic Association
 Jan. 16 Successful Manager Training Series
 Jan. 18 "Theodore '94: A Vision for Leadership," Business and Industry Political
 Education Committee
 Feb. 7 "Theodore '94: A Vision for Leadership," Trident Chamber
 Mar. 13 South Carolina Education Association
 May 1 South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus
 May 11 Democratic Caucus
 June 27 Evrytanian Association of America
 July 4 Greenville Symphony Fourth of July Concert
 Sept. 13 Charleston Democratic Breakfast
 Nov. 18 North Augusta Board of Realtors
 Dec. 5 South Carolina School Board Association
 1994:
 Jan. 7 Chamber of Commerce Healthcare Issues Conference
 Jan. 14 South Carolina Textile Manufacturers Association Board of Directors
 Jan. 21 South Carolina Association of School Superintendents
 Mar. 9 Environmental Awareness Awards
 Apr. 6 State Government Restructuring Implementation
 Apr. 11 Columbia Rotary Club
 Apr. 25 Horry County Convention
 Apr. 26 Jobs and Economic Development
 June 20 Stump Speech, Gallivants Ferry
 Aug. 3 Primary Care Association
 Oct. 2 Congregation Beth Israel & Temple of Israel Men's Clubs
 Oct. 4 Charleston Visitor's Center
 1997, May 2 Pickens & Greenville County Democratic Breakfast
 1998:
 May 1 Democratic Convention Dinner, Columbia
 July 31 Hilton Head Island
 Aug. 10 Myrtle Beach Jaycees
 2000:
 Jan. 28 Education Talking Points
 Feb. 27 Greenville & Anderson Civic Clubs
 Apr. 27 Education Talking Points, Quincy's in Newberry
 2001, Dec. 19 USC-Spartanburg December Convocation
 2007, June 12 Department of Disabilities & Special Needs
 No Date:
 Alcohol and Drug Abuse Centers
 Budget
 Business and Education Partnership Advisory Council
 Changes in South Carolina
 "Changing Rural America"
 Child Care / Children
 Citizen Involvement
 Economic Development
 Grecian Festival
 Health Care / 13th District Pharmaceutical Association
 Hilton Head Island Recreation Center Dedication Ceremony
 "How a Bill Becomes a Law" / Law Day

Box 4

Liberty Booster Awards
Politics / "Public Relations and Politics as an Art Form"
"Service is the 'Name of the Game'"
South Carolina School Board Association
South Carolina Seniors
Spartanburg Methodist College Commencement
Sunset Law
"Toward an Urban Policy"
Women's Issues
Young Democrats Club

"Speaker's Idea File"
Speech Material (2 folders)

Clippings:

General
Budget
Children
Crime
Economics
Education
Elections:
 1986
 1990
 1994 (3 folders)
Environment
Hugo
Jaycees
Lieutenant Governor
Military
Restructure
State Representative
State Senate
Veto

Audiovisual

Cassette Tape, "Hugo the Horrible"

Photographs:

General:
 1960-1970s

 1980s

 1990s

Am Vets, Grand Strand, 1990

American Textile Machinery Exhibition International (ATME-I), 1988

Awards

Beer Whole-sellers Convention

British Petroleum

Campaign Events

Campaign Rally, 1990

Celebrities

Children's Place, Inc.

Citizens and Southern Corporation Grand Opening

Coastal Council Environmental Awards, 1994

Box 5

College Career Conference
Comptroller and Treasurer's National Meeting
Dignitaries
Dry Summit, Charleston, 1990
Dukakis Visit, 1987
DuPont Meeting
FAIR Delegation Visit, 1993
Focus South Carolina
Fundraiser at the Mall
Gazes Center Banquet
Georgetown Memorial Hospital
Governor Campaign, 1994 (2 folders)
Grand Openings/Ground Breakings
Greek-American Reception, Atlanta, 1988
Greek Orthodox Church
Herb Granger Highway Dedication
Hugo
Inauguration, 1989
Jaycees
Knights of Columbus
Leukemia Society Dinner
Lieutenant Governor Billboards
Lieutenant Governor Conference, St. Johns, 1989
Lieutenant Governor Staff
Lieutenant Governor Writing Awards
Mellow Yellow 500
Mental Health Week

Miss South Carolina
Office Visitors
Other Campaigns
Palmetto Boys State, 1990
Parades
Pearlstone Distributors 125th Anniversary, 1990
Personal
Portraits
Rainbow for Hope
Republic Railroad
Roast for Union
Rotary Youth Exchange Group
Safe Kids
School for Deaf & Blind
School Visits (Folder & Album)
South Carolina Educational Television 13th Anniversary
Southern Oaks Dedication
Speaking Engagements
Sporting Events
State House in Session
State Representative, 1973
Strom Thurmond Institute
Symphony Auction

Box 6

Symphony Winter Festival
TCM Manufacturing USA Dedication
Television Appearances
Textile Association
Victims' Bill of Rights
Winthrop College
Woodruff Mayor Swearing-In