

234 + 148

Nestlé Waters' Lance Tully named county ambassador

ROBERT MONNIE
Staff Reporter

Gov. Nikki Haley and the S.C. Department of Commerce have recognized Lance Tully, natural resource manager for Nestlé Waters North America, as Chesterfield County's 2016 Ambassador for Economic Development. The award honors South Carolinians who have made exceptional contributions to their county and the state's economic development efforts.

Nestlé Waters' new facility in McBee represents an investment of more than \$40 million and created nearly 60 jobs. Each South Carolina county selects and nominates a recipient for the annual Ambassadors for Economic Development Award. This year, Haley presented the ambassadors with awards April 28 at the Governor's Mansion Complex in Columbia.

"Chesterfield County is proud to honor Nestlé Waters' Lance Tully for his commitment to our community," said Kim Burch, director of the Chesterfield County Economic Development Board. "Lance invested significant time in educating our citizens on the economic and social benefits



Contributed
Lance Tully, Natural Resource Manager for Nestlé Waters North America, was recognized by Gov. Nikki Haley and the S.C. Department of Commerce as Chesterfield County's 2016 Ambassador for Economic Development. Pictured from left are S.C. Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt, Tully and Haley.

of the new Nestlé plant, and we look forward to his continued contributions to our county."

During Tully's watch, Nestlé gave \$5,300 to McBee Elementary School to help build a new outdoor basketball court, donated five pallets of water to the McBee High School athletic program and 300 pounds of non-perishable items to a Pageland food bank.

Last fall in the aftermath of the extreme flooding, Tully also coordinated the

shipment of several tractor-trailer loads of bottled water to communities in need of drinking water in the Palmetto State.

"Locating, building and opening the new Nestlé Waters bottling facility in McBee was a team effort between our company and the community," said Tully. "I look forward to helping to showcase Chesterfield County as a business friendly environment to other prospective employers."

The Link
Cheraw, SC
Circ. 8748
From Page:
13
5/17/2016
64869





59 + 148

Shaw spins into hurricane season

By Airman 1st Class Destinee Dougherty
20th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

SHAW AIR FORCE BASE, S.C. -- Hurricane season is scheduled to begin here June 1 and last until Nov. 30.

Although Shaw Air Force Base is approximately 100 miles from the coast, the base still has the potential to experience destructive weather.

On Sept. 22, 1989, Hurricane Hugo hit Shaw with winds up to 109 mph and caused approximately \$7 billion in damages to the mainland United States.

Statistically, Shaw is hit by a hurricane approximately every 20 years.

Staff Sgt. Dayna Byrd, 20th Civil Engineer Squadron emergency management flight operations noncommissioned officer in charge, said her biggest piece of advice is to be prepared. Bring any necessary medications for family members with special needs, have a full tank of gas and make a plan for pets during an evacuation.

Capt. Matt Griffie, 20th Operations Support Squadron operations support weather flight commander, recommended everyone have a hurricane prep bag including batteries, chargers, extra water bottles, blankets and flashlights readily available in the event of a storm.

Shaw's severe weather preparedness was tested during the "Thousand Year Flood," October 2015, which affected the Shaw and local areas.

The flood was referenced in preparation for the upcoming hurricane season when Gov. Nikki Haley led a "tabletop exercise" at the headquarters of the S.C. Hospital Association May 13, to work on state coordination and planning for hurricanes and tropical storms.

"Often times with hurricanes the biggest issue is people wait until it's too late to evacuate," said Byrd. "If you're given the order to evacuate, follow that order, get your family and get out of town. Evacuation is key to being able to come back and contribute to the recovery."

In case of a weather emergency, the South Carolina Department of Transportation emergency evacuation

route for Shaw AFB and Sumter, S.C. is U.S. Route 378 West.

Hurricanes tend to weaken once they hit land, however the stronger storms can move farther inland causing strong winds, floods and tornados. During an average hurricane season, 12 tropical storms, about half of which become hurricanes, form over the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, or Atlantic Ocean according to the National Weather Service.

To stay updated on weather events, local media outlets, the National Hurricane Center and the official Shaw Air Force Base website and Facebook issue warnings, watches and forecasts of hazardous weather such as hurricanes and tropical storms.

The Shaw News
Camden, SC
Circ. 8200
From Page:
7
5/20/2016
64772





The Shaw News
Camden, SC
Circ. 8200
From Page:
7
5/20/2016
64772

Fallen trees and debris at the Palmetto Chapel, then Chapel One, after Hurricane Hugo hit Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., September 1989. Hurricane Hugo inflicted approximately \$45 million worth of damages to Shaw, with recorded winds up to 109 mph.

*Courtesy photo by
Shaw Air Force Base historian*



We have the power to influence our future

BY LYNN GREER
For the Independent

Feeling disrespected, disappointed and overwhelmed about the current status of the United States of America? How about South Carolina? Remember when Americans were known for being risk takers, innovators, and visionaries? Today, probably more than ever, we need diverse leaders, who think creatively and who work together. Republican or Democrat we are all in this together. Decisions made today, or not made, will effect us all for years to come. Consider these issues:

Federal level

Not taking action on appointing a replacement to the recently deceased Justice Antonin Scalia. Claiming instead that the selection should wait for the new President. Stalling this issue is not only unconstitutional, it is illegal. Perhaps it is time to increase the number of justices, which could be done through legislation, not requiring an amendment to the Constitution. This could result in a better chance to have the best legal minds serving with less individual power and influence on rulings.

Not knowing the positions of or the strategies of the candidates related to the national debt, the national deficit, the military buildup in Syria and government spending is a must for voters to make informed decisions. Electing legislators who

are committed to wrestling with the complex and complicated issues mentioned here is a must.

Equitable Campaign Finance Reform including the amount of time elected officials spend on making calls for campaign

contributions, establishing and receiving "donations" from PAC's (Political Action Committees) to include multimillion individual and corporate donors should also be reviewed. Yes, it takes money to run a campaign but think about how those millions - and billions of dollars could be better spent on America's schools, strengthening the military, and improving our democratic process.

South Carolina

Addressing the State's Greatest Needs—education, roads and ethics reform. Governor Haley's 2016-2017 Executive Budget includes funding for education, public safety and flood recovery for the agricultural industry.

Significant progress has been made recruiting new business to the state already. Imagine how much easier it would be to continue by offering high school graduates that are prepared for a career in the military, skilled at trades and manufacturing, and equipped for community colleges and college.

While public safety is critical and expected, so is ethics reform that could minimize the temptation of comfortable and complacent legislators. State lawmakers in Columbia have been reluctant to produce overdue ethics reform that could minimize the temptation of corruption.

The good news is that the Senate unanimously approved the Ethics Reform bill on April 27, 2016. The bill now goes to the House and as long as House members make the time to approve it before May 1, it will become law. They should resist the temptation of discussing the issues of who uses what bathroom, talking about erectile dysfunction medication, the use of hormones by prisoners and other significantly less urgent issues.

More good news, the Senate on April 27 also passed a one-time \$2.2 billion infrastructure bill for road improvements. Gov. Nikki Haley still says the DOT

(Department of Transportation) system still needs to be reformed to get rid of political horsetrading but let's acknowledge what has been done and stay vigilant about electing officials who you can trust and who you know will work for you.

What can we do?

If you're feeling apathetic and alienated from the process of government, spend some time now asking the candidates what their PLAN(S) is to address these critical issues:

Equitable campaign finance reform, term limits, government spending. You shouldn't need to become an expert on any or all of these issues.

Rather you should have confidence and trust in the person you vote for to do what's best for the country and South Carolina.

We elect people to focus on these matters – that's their job. Ask the person whom you're considering to vote for to explain anything you don't understand and find out what his or her strategies and plans are on how they will deal with these issues and how they will let you have a more meaningful and direct role in their decision making process.

Last minute political actions taken in an election year are not new. Remember, hope is not a strategy. The South Carolina legislative sessions ends in early June.

The Republican Primary is June 14 and the SC Democratic Convention to select delegates to the national convention is April 30. The national election is Nov. 8. Let them know you will be watching them and holding them accountable. Then just do it. Speaking up now could quite possibly bring us back to the state and country we all want and know is possible. Together, it can be done.

Lynn Greer is recently retired and is a long time resident of Goose Creek.



Berkeley
Independent
Moncks
Corner, SC
Circ. 5906
From Page:
7
5/18/2016
64192



Weekly
Observer
Hemingway, SC
Circ. 2192
From Page:
4
5/18/2016
64144



148 **STUDENTS VISIT
STATEHOUSE**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COLUMBIA

On May 4, the third- and fourth-grade students from Emmanuel Christian School in Hartsville took a tour of the South Carolina Statehouse. These students were recognized on the House floor by the Speaker of the House Jay Lucas of Hartsville and Rep. Bill Taylor of Aiken. The students also met Gov. Nikki Haley, and they were excited to have their pictures taken with Gov. Haley and Rep. Taylor.



Marion Star &
Mullins
Enterprise
Marion, SC
Circ. 3842
From Page:
7
5/18/2016
63186



S.C. Editorial Roundup

148

The Greenville News on ethics reform bills in South Carolina:

Two ethics reform bills (finally) approved by the South Carolina Senate would be a step forward, but even if the House agrees to the Senate's bills or a workable compromise is hammered out in conference, no one in the state should make the claim that ethics reform in South Carolina is complete.

The good news is that the Senate bills would turn over investigations of ethics complaints against legislators to a reconfigured State Ethics Commission. Right now, the fox guards the henhouse, with each house investigating complaints against its own members. Although the new bill lets the foxes appoint some of the guards, it is a step removed from the current law and represents a real step forward.

The Senate's bills also would require public officials to disclose the sources of their private income. Once again, though, the Senate declined to take a full step forward by requiring lawmakers to disclose the amounts of those incomes. The bill also needs to be clear that all private income sources should be revealed.

Finally, the Senate bills failed to address regulation of what is known as "dark money," or money from groups not run by candidates and that face no disclosure requirements.

As one activist said two weeks ago of the bills, "It's not a home run. But maybe it's a good single."

We would even go so far as to say it's an extra-base hit, given the length of time the Legislature has struggled to pass any meaningful ethics reform. But the shortcomings of both bills mean more work needs to be done.

For instance, the revamped Ethics Commission would not be completely independent from the Legislature. Lawmakers would appoint half of the eight-member commission. And it would take only three members to block a complaint from moving forward. Further, only criminal matters would be sent to the Attorney General's Office, with other matters going to legislative committees to determine guilt or innocence and any penalty. There still is room for improvement here, as lawmakers should be completely removed from policing themselves.

More worrisome, though, is that legislators still refuse to agree to disclosing not just the sources of their private income but the amounts. In politics, money talks. And residents have the right to know exactly whose money their representatives are receiving and how much. After all, \$10,000 talks a whole lot louder than \$10.

Holding any public official, either elected or appointed, accountable to their employers (the people) demands that those officials surrender at least a measure of their privacy. Income is one area where public officials ought to lose that privacy.

These are significant reforms that still need to take place. If they can't be achieved as the House and Senate reconcile their bills, then they should be tackled next year. In the meantime, the bills passed by the Senate represent achievable progress and they should be made law.

It is at least encouraging that both houses have taken this issue seriously this legislative session. The case for ethics reform in South Carolina can be made by simply listing the names of some of those elected and appointed officials who have demonstrated a belief that they were above the law.

In a little more than four years, this state has had a lieutenant governor (Ken Ard), a speaker of the House (Bobby Harrell) and a sitting member of the Legislature (Sen. Robert





Ford) resign amid ethics violations or investigations. Accusations have been raised against other officials, including then Rep. Nikki Haley.

South Carolina politics are sometimes mocked because of their free-wheeling nature that sometimes has the whiff of corruption. These reforms can help clear up that air and perhaps decrease the perception that our public officials are looking out for their own interest, and give us confidence that the public's interests will be put first.

But legislators should not lose sight of the very obvious fact that there is more that needs to be done.

Marion Star &
Mullins
Enterprise
Marion, SC
Circ. 3842
From Page:
7
5/18/2016
63186



Marion Star &
Mullins
Enterprise
Marion, SC
Circ. 3842
From Page:
4
5/18/2016
63186



148 STUDENTS VISIT
STATEHOUSE

A black and white group photograph of approximately 148 children, mostly young girls, standing in several rows. They are dressed in a variety of styles, including dresses, blouses, and jackets. In the front row, two men in suits are visible, likely the officials mentioned in the text. The background shows an interior space with a window and a doorway.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COLUMBIA
On May 4, the third- and fourth-grade students from Emmanuel Christian School in Hartsville took a tour of the South Carolina Statehouse. These students were recognized on the House floor by the Speaker of the House Jay Lucas of Hartsville and Rep. Bill Taylor of Aiken. The students also met Gov. Nikki Haley, and they were excited to have their pictures taken with Gov. Haley and Rep. Taylor.



Marion Star &
Mullins
Enterprise
Marion, SC
Circ. 3842
From Page:
3
5/18/2016
63186



¹⁴⁸ Gov. Haley vetoes bill to give \$40M in aid to farmers

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Gov. Nikki Haley vetoed a bill Monday that would send \$40 million in aid to South Carolina farmers, saying farmers may complain loudly, but don't need a bailout that isn't being offered to all small businesses.

The veto sets up an override showdown with the House and Senate, which each passed the bill by wide margins. It also angers farmers who said the governor promised she had their backs during much less damaging flooding three years ago.

Haley said last week her heart breaks for farmers wiped out when up to 2 feet of rain fell in 12 hours in October over wide parts of South Carolina.

But the governor said farmers have plenty of options to pay for most of their losses, including crop insurance and a number of other federal programs that can pay for lost yields or to prepare damaged fields for the next planting.

"By any measure the current financial support we give to farmers is extraordinary, but a vocal industry has asked for more tax-

payer dollars to bail them out," Haley wrote in her veto message.

The farmers have rallied at the Statehouse saying federal aid was not enough after October's catastrophic floods. The deluge came after several months of drought wiped out another round of crops.

The \$40 million proposal would allow farmers in di-

saster-declared counties to apply for grants of up to \$100,000 each, covering no more than 20 percent of their total loss.

The governor said tens of thousands of other people in South Carolina have already started recovering with aid from public and private sources and urged the Legislature to not overturn her veto.

The original bill passed the House 95-6 and the Senate 33-3 — majorities well over the two-thirds needed to make the bill law over her objections.

Haley's veto threat was especially painful for farmers like John Pendarvis of Dorchester County. He has had a string of bad luck with the weather, starting back in 2013 when a wet summer left him with little from his corn, cotton and soybeans crops.

Haley came to Pendarvis' farm in August 2013. "You are seeing a farming community in crisis," Haley said back then. "What we are here to do is show we have the backs of our farmers."

The October flood wiped out just about everything Pendarvis was growing. Farmers reported nearly \$400 million in losses in 2015, compared to \$61 million paid in federal crop insurance payments in 2013.

"When she was running for re-election, she promised to help. Now she's backpedaling on me," Pendarvis said.

And Haley's reasoning that farmers shouldn't get help not offered to other small businesses after the flood also didn't sit well with the leader of the South Carolina Small Business Chamber of Commerce.

"Our small businesses want our farmers, who contribute to the economic health of our state, to recover. They don't begrudge farmers from receiving funds available to them," chamber president Frank Knapp Jr. said.





Marion Star &
Mullins
Enterprise
Marion, SC
Circ. 3842
From Page:
3
5/18/2016
63186



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Gov. Nikki Haley vetoed a bill Monday that would have given \$40 million in aid to farmers devastated by October's historic floods because it is help not offered to any other small businesses. Pendarvis said government treats groups different all of the time and this was an unprecedented disaster.

Lake City News
& Post
Lake City, SC
Circ. 1747
From Page:
4
5/18/2016
63162



148 **STUDENTS VISIT
STATEHOUSE**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COLUMBIA

On May 4, the third- and fourth-grade students from Emmanuel Christian School in Hartsville took a tour of the South Carolina Statehouse. These students were recognized on the House floor by the Speaker of the House Jay Lucas of Hartsville and Rep. Bill Taylor of Aiken. The students also met Gov. Nikki Haley, and they were excited to have their pictures taken with Gov. Haley and Rep. Taylor.



The Morning
News
Florence, SC
Circ. 35092
From Page:
4
5/19/2016
61050



148 + 234
Senate overrides veto; \$40M in help heading to SC farmers

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — About \$40 million in state aid will soon be heading to South Carolina farmers after the Senate delivered its own sharp rebuke to Gov. Nikki Haley on Wednesday by overriding her veto of a farm aid bill.

The Senate's 39-3 vote came a day after the House voted 112-2 to reject the governor's veto. A two-thirds vote was all that was needed.

The vote came after more loud complaints about the governor delivered by lawmakers, who frequently get poked by Haley. Nearly two dozen lawmakers, many of them fellow Republicans, took the governor to task over two days. Legislators said she broke a promise she made during previous, smaller disasters, to have the farmers' backs.

Some, including Sen. Shane Martin, often side with Haley. But the Republican from Pauline said it was disturbing that Haley would back tens of millions of dollars in incentives for out-of-state companies such as Boeing and Volvo to build plants and reject aid for farmers who grow food, raise children and buy supplies in South Carolina.

"The hypocrisy kills me," Mar-

tin said. "I'm going to be proudly overriding the veto."

Farmers lost nearly \$400 million in last October's floods, when 24 inches of rain fell in some areas in 12 hours. The water took months to recede, preventing the planting of additional crops, and came after a drought destroyed some other crops during the summer. The back-to-back disasters, combined with low prices for crops, had some farmers saying they were teetering on going under.

In her veto message Monday, Haley said it wasn't fair for farmers to get help that wasn't available to all small businesses. She said farmers have crop insurance and federal aid to cover their losses. And she called the bill a bailout, which lawmakers said was a loaded word to make it seem like farmers were moochers.

"It's not a bailout. It's a lifeline. And it is sinful we have not done better by them," said Sen. Luke Rankin, R-Myrtle Beach.

The law allows farmers in disaster-declared counties to apply for grants of up to \$100,000 each, covering no more than 20 percent of their total loss. Agri-

culture Secretary Hugh Weathers said a board to award the grants could be picked by the end of the month.

Farmers were at the Statehouse two days in a row and cheered as the Senate voted was announced.

Sen. Tom Davis voted against the bill. "I don't think government exists to take money out of some people's pockets and put it in other people's pockets, no matter how egregious the circumstances," the Beaufort Republican said.

Haley issued a statement with a more conciliatory tone after Tuesday's House vote. She said there were no winners in the massive flood and she would continue to work to make sure everyone in South Carolina is helped during the flood recovery.

The governor's office did not comment on Wednesday's vote.

Haley has had four of her past five vetoes overridden, and the Senate voted 39-3 on Wednesday to override a different veto on an eye care bill. That veto now goes to the House, which passed the original bill 100-1.

¹⁴⁸ Supreme Court: Haley can't appoint Transportation secretary

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — A state Supreme Court ruling Wednesday temporarily put the Department of Transportation's leadership in limbo and, according to lawmakers, underscored the Legislature's need to pass a roads bill.

The justices threw out a clause in the 2015-16 budget allowing Gov. Nikki Haley to continue appointing the Transportation secretary, saying it was unrelated to the budget and therefore unconstitutional "log-rolling."

The issue is whether "suspending the termination of the governor's appointment power is reasonably and inherently related to the raising and spending of tax monies. We hold that it is not," Chief Justice Costa Pleicones wrote in the 4-1 decision.

Under the 2007 government restructuring law that put the Transportation agency in the governor's Cabinet, Haley's ability to appoint the secretary should have expired July 1, 2015. Legislators intended to address that as part of highway-funding legislation.

When they couldn't agree on funding, legislators tacked a one-year extension onto the budget.

The court's order says the authority to appoint a new leader should have reverted last July to the Transportation Department's commission, restoring its full oversight of the agency.

The ruling is another victory for Greenville resident Ned Sloan, a retired paving contractor who, for more than a decade, has successfully challenged the legislative practice of "bobtailing" — tacking one bill onto another.

Hours after the ruling, commissioners voted 8-0 in an emergency meeting to keep Christy Hall as secretary and ratify her decisions.

"We have no issue with who the secretary is. Apparently the Supreme Court has an issue with how she got there," said DOT Chairman Mike Wooten. "She's what South Carolina needs, and we need to keep her in that position as long as we can."

The Senate confirmed Hall as secretary in January, but she'd been at the helm as acting secretary since last summer. It was her second stint in the interim position, following the second resignation of a Haley appointee. Legislators have widely praised Hall's leadership during the February 2014 ice storm and last fall's catastrophic flooding.

Rep. Gary Simrill, who has led the House's highway-funding efforts, said he wasn't surprised by the high court's ruling.

"We were Band-aiding the process," he said.

It does show the ramifications of what could happen if the Legislature continues to delay on legislation aimed at fixing South Carolina's crumbling roads, and it highlights the need to combine reform with funding, said Simrill, R-Rock Hill.

Later Wednesday, the House Ways and Means Committee unanimously advanced a bill merging a Senate borrowing proposal with changes in the DOT's governance. It would continue to give the commission appointing powers, with legislators' approval, but allow the governor to appoint every commissioner. Currently, legislators appoint seven commissioners and the governor appoints one.

The borrowing plan — which the Senate approved as part of its budget proposal for 2016-17 — uses about \$200 million in existing fees, fines and vehicle sales taxes to borrow \$2 billion over 10 years. Hall has said that frees up other money the DOT can use to replace bridges and pave roads, allowing for more than \$4 billion worth of work total.

Last year, the House passed a bill that would have provided an additional \$400 million yearly for highway construction. A Senate version raised roughly twice that, but the session ended with opponents of increasing gas taxes preventing a vote on the Senate floor.

The DOT has said it needs an additional \$1.5 billion annually over three decades to bring the state's highway system to good condition.

"The court's ruling underscores the need for the legislature to reform the DOT this year — otherwise we're going to keep throwing taxpayer dollars at a system that's broken, which would be irresponsible," said Haley spokeswoman Chaney Adams.

Senate Judiciary Chairman Larry Martin, R-Pickens, blasted the court's ruling but said he's optimistic the Legislature will address both funding and governance before the session ends next month.

With the budget spending hundreds of million on roads, Martin argued, nothing was more germane than a clause directing "who was going to spend that money."

The Morning
News
Florence, SC
Circ. 35092
From Page:
4
5/19/2016
61050

