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South Carolina News:

Associated Press: 12 private schools cleared for tax credit program

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/aug/06/12-private-schools-cleared-tax-credit-program/>

The Education Oversight Committee has approved a dozen private schools for enrolling special-needs students under South Carolina's first school-choice program. The list will be updated weekly as additional schools provide the required documentation. They have no deadline, said Melanie Barton, executive director of the independent oversight agency.

The State: Panel Oks health-care experiment for some SC workers

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/08/05/2614396/panel-oks-health-care-experiment.html>

Adam Beam

State officials, searching for ways to control the ever-increasing health-care costs, have approved a one-year experiment in Charleston designed to control the costs of some of the state health plan's most expensive patients. The Public Employee Benefit Authority gave the plan preliminary approval Monday. The five-member Budget and Control Board must give the plan final approval in September before it would take effect in January.

Post and Courier: Ports Authority seeking dismissal of cruise terminal lawsuit

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130805/PC05/130809676/1010/ports-authority-seeking-dismissal-of-cruise-terminal-lawsuit>

Tyrone Richardson

The State Ports Authority is asking a state judge to dismiss a lawsuit opposing its plans for a new \$35 million cruise terminal in downtown Charleston, alleging opponents are deliberately using the court as a delay technique. Lawyers for the state maritime agency have filed a motion asking S.C. Administrative Law Judge Ralph Anderson III to approve sanctions, including the dismissal the case, claiming the suit is "frivolous, lacked any reasonable or defensible grounds of support, and was filed solely for the purpose of delay," according to the filing.

The State: DOD furlough reductions will soften impact on SC economy

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/06/2903836/fewer-furlough-days-mean-softer.html>

Jeff Wilkinson

The U.S. military has lowered to six from 11 the number of days its civilian workers must take off without pay by the end of the fiscal year, according to a Department of Defense release. Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel said the Pentagon found sufficient savings in the final months of the current fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30, to lower the number of furlough days. Officials said last week that they would need to find about \$900 million in savings in order to eliminate five of the 11 furlough days. There are 650,000 civilian workers in the military, with 11,500 in South Carolina.

Greenville News: Upstate farmers face losses after rains leave fields flooded

Rain slows crop harvests across S.C.

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130806/NEWS/308060013/Upstate-farmers-face-losses-after-rains-leave-fields-flooded>

Nathaniel Cary

Fisher, who owns Fisher's Pick Your Own in Greer, said his peach crop lagged behind earlier in the summer but has recovered nicely. The picking's perfect right now and new varieties are ripening now, Fisher said. His crop has fared well compared to others in the Upstate, said county agents with the Clemson University Extension Service in Greenville. One peach farmer in Landrum lost 30 percent of his trees after his

waterlogged fields caused the trees to die, said Andy Rollins, Clemson Extension's Upstate commercial fruit and vegetable agent.

Post and Courier: SLED investigating money missing from Dorchester County Detention Center

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130806/PC16/130809626/1006/>

Glenn Smith

The State Law Enforcement Division is investigating money that is missing from the Dorchester County Detention Center, the second time funds have disappeared from the jail in recent years. During a random internal audit conducted at the Dorchester County Detention Center it was discovered that an unknown amount of funds were missing from an account, Chief Deputy Sam Richardson said.

Post and Courier: With a name like "Reckless"...

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130806/PC1002/130809663/1021/with-a-name-like-x201c-reckless-x201d>

Editorial

Charleston city officials are understandably getting a little nervous over some racy material that will reportedly appear in the premiere episode of the new CBS legal drama being filmed in Charleston.

Herald-Journal: Bright expected to announce candidacy for US Senate next week

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20130806/ARTICLES/130809833/1083/ARTICLES?Title=Bright-expected-to-announce-candidacy-for-US-Senate-next-week>

Felicia Kitzmiller

State Sen. Lee Bright is expected to make his candidacy for U.S. Senate official sometime next week. Bright, R-Roebuck, has long been speculated to be a Tea Party challenger to Sen. Lindsey Graham. On Monday, Bright said plans are in the works for a formal announcement, and soon. "We're working on something for next week," he said after Spartanburg County's quarterly legislative delegation meeting.

Post and Courier: Experience on the pier

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130805/PC05/130809889/1010/experience-on-the-pier>

Tyrone Richardson

Dock workers have peppered newspaper headlines in the last year due to contract negotiations about a master contract between the ILA and the U.S. Maritime Alliance, a group representing shipping lines, terminal operators and port associations. The ILA, which represents roughly 14,500 workers at the Port of Charleston and 14 others that extend south from Boston, threatened to strike late last year.

Post and Courier: Judge orders Veronica's prompt transfer, asks for prosecutors' help after father misses visit

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130805/PC16/130809668/1177/judge-orders-veronica-x2019-s-prompt-transfer-asks-for-prosecutors-x2019-help-after-father-misses-visit>

Andrew Knapp

A Charleston judge on Monday ordered the immediate transfer of 3-year-old Veronica to her adoptive parents and called for action from state and federal authorities after the girl's birth father failed to appear for a court-ordered visit the day before.

Post and Courier: Final Senate 42 debate set for 7 tonight

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130806/PC16/130809631/1005/final-senate-42-debate-set-for-7-tonight>

Robert Behre

The final debate between Democrats seeking the state Senate 42 seat by Robert Ford will be held at 7 tonight in North Charleston. It also is expected to be the only debate featuring all six challengers who will face off in the Aug. 13 primary. Former Charleston City Councilman Maurice Washington boycotted the first debate sponsored by the NAACP out of concern that it wasn't a level playing field.

Travelers Rest Tribune: US Senate confirms Furman professor's nomination

http://www.trtribune.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=6740:furman-professor-named-to-obama-administration-post&catid=1:latest-news&Itemid=316

The U.S. Senate has confirmed the nomination of Furman University political science professor Brent Nelsen to the board of directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Brent Nelsen, Furman University. Nelsen was nominated for the position in April by President Barack Obama, and the Senate

confirmed the nomination Aug. 1. His term begins immediately and will expire Jan. 31, 2016.

Greenville News: Furman series on healthcare ends Wednesday

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130806/NEWS/308060036/Furman-series-healthcare-ends-Wednesday>

The final installment at Furman University on how people statewide will be impacted next year by the Affordable Healthcare Act is Wednesday evening at the school, a spokesman said. Furman series, "Straight Talk: Healthcare Reform in S.C.," is from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Younts Conference Center on campus.

Post and Courier: It's official: College GameDay's coming to Clemson for Georgia game

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130806/PC20/130809627/1177/it-x2019-s-official-college-gameday-x2019-s-coming-to-clemson-for-georgia-game>

Aaron Brenner

Quite possibly the worst-kept secret in college football circles is no longer masquerading as a secret. ESPN made it official Tuesday afternoon: Clemson will host the 2013 College GameDay season premiere on Aug. 31 when the Tigers take on Georgia.

Associated Press: U.S. Fish and Wildlife holding public hearings on loggerhead habitat

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130806/PC16/130809623/1005/us-fish-and-wildlife-holding-public-hearings-on-loggerhead-habitat>

Bruce Smith

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is holding a public hearing on designating 750 miles of beaches from North Carolina to Mississippi as critical habitat for endangered loggerhead sea turtles. The hearing Tuesday evening in Charleston is followed by two this week in North Carolina - one in Wilmington on Wednesday and one in Morehead City on Thursday.

Local News:

Post and Courier: Beaufort joins search and rescue program, Charleston County already a member

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130806/PC1610/130809619/1005/beaufort-joins-search-and-rescue-program-used-by-charleston-county-since-2008>

A new search and rescue program to help sheriff's deputies find missing people with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, autism and Down syndrome is coming to Beaufort County. The Island Packet of Hilton Head reports that deputies were trained last week on Project Lifesaver equipment. The nationwide program is designed to help track people who may become lost.

Herald Journal: SMC president named leader of national Methodist organization

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20130806/ARTICLES/130809826/-1/news300?Title=SMC-president-named-leader-of-national-Methodist-organization>

The president of Spartanburg Methodist College has been named the leader of a national organization for schools affiliated with the United Methodist Church. Colleen Perry Keith began her one-year term with the National Association of Schools and Colleges of The United Methodist Church during its annual meeting last week, according to SMC. Keith, who has been president of SMC since July 2009, previously served as the group's 2nd vice president.

Anderson Independent: Public hearing set about Franklin County voting precinct consolidation proposal

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/aug/06/public-hearing-set-about-franklin-county-voting-pr/>

Franklin County voters will have a chance Tuesday night to voice their opinions about a plan to consolidate the county's 13 voting precincts to four. Franklin County Elections Superintendent Tess Eubanks told the County Board of Commissioners in June that the elections board voted to consolidate precincts for a number of reasons, primarily cost savings.

Aiken Standard: First South Aiken ROTC female freshman earns 'Rambo' moniker

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130806/AIK0101/130809714/first-south-aiken-rotc-female-freshman-earns-8216-rambo-8217-moniker>

Rob Novit

Four years ago, ROTC upperclassmen began a new award – citing a ninth-grader for unusual determination and team-building efforts and giving that incoming cadet a cool moniker. Greg Flippen, the 2012-13

commanding officer, was the first cadet to win that award. Three guys followed, and now Rowe is the initial female. She is surprised and pleased to earn the recognition

The Sun News: North Myrtle Beach announces election information

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/08/06/3629035/north-myrtle-beach-announces-election.html>

Vicki Grooms

The general election for the city of North Myrtle Beach will be held Nov. 5, according to a news release from the city's election commission.

The State: Lexington to host Dixie Youth World Series

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/06/2903732/lexington-to-host-dixie-youth.html>

Tim Flach

Lexington will host the Dixie Youth World Series for a second consecutive year in 2015, town officials said Tuesday. It's the first time in the event's 60 years that it will return to the same place it was held the year before, officials said. It is expected to attract 6,000 visitors to the Midlands, officials said.

Island Packet: Most recent Beaufort Civic Master Plan ready for public review

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/08/05/2614344/most-recent-beaufort-civic-master.html>

Erin Moody

After three months of revisions, the most recent version of a plan that maps growth in the city of Beaufort is ready for public inspection. The Civic Master Plan is being prepared for adoption by City Council. It is posted to the city's website so the public can review it before a presentation and work session Aug. 22, tentatively set for 5 p.m.

Times and Democrat: Clemson students No. 1 in sports, town relations

http://thetandd.com/sports/clemson-students-no-in-sports-town-relations/article_0362d412-feb7-11e2-945c-001a4bcf887a.html

Clemson University is ranked at the top of U.S. schools in student sports participation and community relations, according to The Princeton Review.

Index-Journal: On Board

Due West leader joins ranks of Association of SC Mayors

<http://www.indexjournal.com/main.asp?SectionID=4&SubSectionID=40&ArticleID=20082&TM=57551.01>

Mayor Lee Logan has never been shy about trumpeting the virtues of Due West. Now, he'll do so as a board member of the Association of South Carolina Mayors.

National News:

Associated Press: Defense furloughs cut from 11 to 6

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130806/PC16/130809621/1005/apnewsbreak-defense-furloughs-cut-from-11-to-6>

Lolita C. Baldor

The Pentagon is moving to ease the pain of mandatory, unpaid furloughs that civilian employees have had to bear for a month because of budgetary pressures, cutting the number of days off from 11 to six, The Associated Press has learned. Officials say the Pentagon found sufficient savings in the final months of the current fiscal year to lessen the burden on those who have had to take a day off a week without pay since early July. Officials said last week that they would need to find about \$900 million in savings in order to eliminate five of the 11 furlough days.

Associated Press: Post-Romney, some in GOP reject advice to moderate

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/aug/06/post-romney-some-gop-reject-advice-moderate/>

Charles Babington

After Mitt Romney's 2012 loss, many senior Republicans concluded the party must moderate its image on issues such as immigration and reproductive rights. But some GOP lawmakers have done the opposite. They imposed new restrictions on abortion in several states. They are strongly resisting a broad immigration bill in the U.S. House. They're waging a steady assault on "Obamacare," with some House and Senate Republicans vowing to shut down the government if that's what it takes to choke off the health care law Congress enacted in 2010.

New York Times: Moving Lock, Stock and Barrel

Luring Away Gunmakers: The gun maker PTR Industries is moving from Connecticut to South Carolina, as tightening restrictions drive the firearms industry to gun-friendly states.

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/06/business/wooed-by-gun-friendly-states-some-manufacturers-pull-up-stakes.html?pagewanted=all&_r=1&

Nelson D. Schwartz

Even gun makers want to be liked. So governors and other politicians from states eager to embrace the industry have descended on places where they are not so popular — like Connecticut, Maryland, New York and Colorado — offering tax breaks and outright cash grants to persuade them to relocate. “I sensed an opportunity,” said Alan Clemmons, a South Carolina state representative, who traveled to Connecticut in the spring as part of a successful effort to lure PTR, a maker of assault rifles here.

CNN: McCain visits Egypt, calls ouster of President Morsy a 'coup'

<http://www.cnn.com/2013/08/06/world/africa/egypt-unrest/index.html>

Reza Sayah and Michael Martinez

U.S. Sen. John McCain says this summer's ouster of former Egyptian President Mohamed Morsy was "a coup," a description that goes against the statements so far from the Obama administration. The White House has avoided using that term for the Egyptian military's ouster of Morsy.

Stateline: On voting rights, Washington strikes back

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/06/2903321/on-voting-rights-washington-strikes.html>

Jake Grovum

The glee in Republican-controlled states after the Supreme Court's Voting Rights Act ruling in June may give way to a different feeling for state officials: The crushing weight of a full legal offensive from the U.S. Justice Department.

The Hill: McCain, Graham in Cairo press Egypt's military to release political prisoners

<http://thehill.com/blogs/global-affairs/middle-east-north-africa/315751-mccain-graham-in-cairo-press-egypts-military-to-release-political-prisoners->

Blake Neff

Sens. John McCain (R-Ariz.) and Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) in Cairo on Tuesday met with the leader of Egypt's military, General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, and urged him to release all political prisoners as a starting point for holding free elections. “In democracy, you sit down and talk to each other,” Graham said at a press conference Tuesday evening. “It is impossible to talk to somebody who is in jail.”

Associated Press: President George W. Bush has stent procedure

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_289563/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=yAoiU7Nk

Lauran Neergaard and Michael Graczyk

Former President George W. Bush successfully underwent a heart procedure in Dallas on Tuesday after doctors discovered a blockage in an artery during his annual physical, Bush spokesman Freddy Ford said

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