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148 Congrats to Veterans With The S.C. Prisoner Of War Medal

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Gov. Nikki Haley was joined last week by Adjutant General Robert Livingston, Jr., Howard Metcalf, Director of the S.C. Division of Veterans' Affairs, and T.J. Martin, former Commander of the S.C. Prisoner of War Commission to present 13 World War II veterans and 7 World War II veterans' widows with the newly-created South Carolina Prisoner of War Medal.

The South Carolina Prisoner of War Medal was created by S.1173, which was introduced and sponsored by Senator Wes Hayes and signed into law by Gov. Haley on July 2, 2014. The Medal will eventually be awarded to every South Carolinian who has been officially designated as a prisoner of war by the U.S. Department of Defense.

The Medal was designed by the Ex-POW Commission, The S.C. Division of Veterans' Affairs, and the Adjutant General's office.

Veterans honored at today's ceremony include the following men:

■ Lieutenant Colonel Chester Hackett, 96, Columbia, SC, Army Air Force, 1 year P.O.W. Camp Lucky Strike

■ Captain Robert S. Dunbar,

94, Army Air Corp, 9 months P.O.W. Camp Stalag Luft 3

■ First Lieutenant Jack Moak, 93, Columbia, SC, 21 months P.O.W. Camps Luft 1-3 and 7A

■ Lieutenant Ernest Jenkins, 97, Charleston, SC, 16 months P.O.W. Camps Luft and Barth Germany

■ TECH Sergeant Lou Fowler, 91, Columbia, SC, 16 months P.O.W. Camps Dulag Luft Fanfort, Stalag Luft 6, East Prussia

■ Staff Sergeant James N. Gatch, 92, Army Air Corp, 1 year P.O.W. Camp Stalag Luft 4 (accepted by his son Charles Gatch)

■ TECH Sergeant Emerson Roberts, 92, Columbia, SC, U.S. Air Force, 11 months P.O.W. Camp Stalag Luft 4

■ Sergeant Paul Hollen, 92, Mount Pleasant, SC, Army, 6 months P.O.W. Camps Neunberg and Mooseburg

■ Sergeant Claud D. Young, 92, Army, 5 months P.O.W.

■ Corporal Bill Pebley, 88, Little Mountain, SC, Army, 4 months P.O.W. Camps Stalag 12 A&B

■ Corporal Pete Wylie, 91, Columbia, SC, Army, 4 months P.O.W. Camp Stalag 13 C

■ Private First Class Paul Luckadoo, 93, Fort Mill, SC, Army, 10 months P.O.W. Camps Stalag 7 A&B

■ Private Reginald Salsbury, 90, Army, 9 months P.O.W. Camp Mooseburg

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SC Dems Call on Sen. Tim Scott and Congressional Republicans to Keep Perkins Loans Program

Last week, the South Carolina Democratic Party Chair Jaime denounced efforts by Republicans in Congress to let the Perkins Loans Program expire.

"The Perkins Loans program is set to expire at the end of this month. These loans are invaluable tools that help low-income and minority students get access to the funds needed to pay for higher education. I personally was a recipient of a Perkins Loan and without it would have been unable to pay for my college education. Let me be clear, without this program, I would not have been able to afford to pay my tuition or buy my books and would have had to drop out of college. There are so many low income students who do and can benefit from this program.

"With the cost of college rising higher than the inflation rate, students need all the help they can get to pay for college. Right now, Republicans in congress are playing politics with our children's education.

"Anyone who is willing to work hard deserves an opportunity to attend college and get a good paying job that they can raise a family on. Senator Tim Scott



Tim Scott

and Governor Nikki Haley have claimed over the past few months that they are fighting to provide greater opportunity for all, well here is a perfect opportunity for them demonstrate their leadership. They need to pick up the phone and call Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell to express their unwavering support for this invaluable program. It is time for the Republicans to stop talking about investing in the education of our future leaders and actually do it."

148 DHEC Takes Enforcement Action Following Investigation and Inspections of Abortion Clinics

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Last week, the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) notified abortion clinics in South Carolina of enforcement actions following an investigation and inspections.

"DHEC remains committed to ensuring that all clinics operating in South Carolina are safe and in compliance with state and federal laws," said DHEC Director Catherine Heigel. "We take the findings of this investigation very seriously and will work together with each of these facilities to help get them into compliance as quickly as possible."

DHEC regulates and licenses abortion clinics and the management of infectious waste.

On August 18, 2015, Governor Nikki Haley requested that the agency conduct an investigation of the three clinics currently operating in the state.

As part of the investigation, DHEC reviewed prior inspection reports of these facilities and conducted onsite inspections between August 31 and September 4, 2015. All three facilities were due to be inspected by the agency later this fall.

During the onsite inspections, DHEC staff interviewed clinic personnel, reviewed documents and patient files, and conducted an inspection of the facilities.

Based on these investigative

and inspection efforts, DHEC took the following enforcement actions:

The agency issued an Administrative Order of Suspension for Planned Parenthood of South Atlantic in Columbia, S.C., due to violations of state laws and regulations. The 21 cited violations included: non-compliance with the Woman's Right to Know Act, incomplete medical and employee records, expired medications, improper infectious waste disposal practices, and failure to report abortions to DHEC Vital Statistics in a timely manner. The DHEC order becomes final on September

28, 2015, and will result in closure of the facility unless review by the DHEC Board is requested or the facility meets the terms of the order.

The agency issued an Administrative Order of Suspension for Greenville Women's Clinic due to violations of state laws and regulations. The six cited violations included: non-compliance with the Woman's Right to Know Act, incomplete medical record documentation, and improper infectious waste disposal practices. The DHEC order becomes final on September 28, 2015, and will result in closure of the facility unless review by the

DHEC Board is requested or the facility meets the terms of the order. The agency issued a Report of Visit to the Charleston Women's Medical Center, which notifies the facility of four minor violations (e.g., documentation errors) that need to be corrected. The facility will be required to submit a plan of correction within 15 days.

Planned Parenthood of South Atlantic in Columbia, S.C., and Greenville Women's Clinic must submit a plan of correction to DHEC by September 28, 2015, show proof of staff training, and pay any assessed penalties in order to lift their suspension orders or face closure.

Additionally, DHEC initiated enforcement action related to the management of infectious waste at all three facilities and against two companies that transport waste for Planned Parenthood of South Atlantic and Greenville Women's Clinic: Stericycle and MedSharps. Cited violations included insufficient documentation of waste disposal practices, failure to follow disposal protocol, and improper disposal of products of conception. The facilities and infectious waste transport companies have 15 days to meet with agency staff to discuss alleged violations, corrective actions, and possible civil penalties.



Protesters outside of abortion clinic



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S.C. businesses, residents can apply for disaster loans

South Carolina businesses and residents affected by severe storms and flooding on Aug. 30-31, can apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration, SBA Administrator Maria Contreras-Sweet announced.

Contreras-Sweet made the loans available in response to a letter from Gov. Nikki R. Haley on Sept. 8, requesting a disaster declaration by the SBA. The declaration covers Charleston County and the adjacent counties of Berkeley, Colleton, Dorchester and Georgetown in South Carolina.

"The SBA is strongly committed to providing the people of South Carolina with the most effective and customer-focused response possible to assist businesses of all sizes, homeowners and renters with federal disaster loans," said Contreras-Sweet. "Getting businesses and communities up and running after a disaster is our highest priority at SBA."

"Loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for

loans up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property," said Frank Skaggs, director of SBA's Field Operations Center East in Atlanta.

"Businesses and nonprofit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets," said SBA's South Carolina District Director Elliott Cooper.

Applicants may be eligible for a loan amount increase up to 20 percent of their physical damages, as verified by the SBA, to make improvements that help prevent the risk of future property damage caused by a similar disaster.

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small aquaculture businesses and most private nonprofit organizations, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

Interest rates are as low as 4

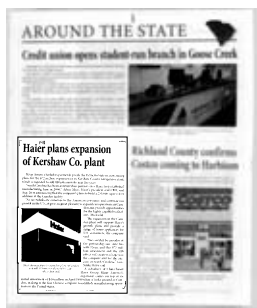
percent for businesses, 2.625 percent for nonprofit organizations, and 1.875 percent for homeowners and renters with terms up to 30 years. Loan amount and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Individuals and businesses may also obtain information and loan applications by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing), or by emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Loan applications can also be downloaded at www.sba.gov/disaster. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is November 9, 2015. The deadline to return economic injury applications is June 10, 2016.

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148 Haier plans expansion of Kershaw Co. plant

Haier America hailed its partnership with the Palmetto State in announcing plans for the \$72 million expansion of its Kershaw County refrigerator plant, which is expected to add 410 jobs over the next five years.

"South Carolina has been a tremendous partner since Haier first established manufacturing here in 2000," Adrin Micu, Haier's president and CEO, said Aug. 20 in announcing that the company's plans to build a 250,000-square-foot addition at the Camden facility.

"As we rededicate ourselves to the American consumer and continue our growth in the U.S., it gives us great pleasure to expand our operations in Camden and provide opportunities for the highly capable local talent," Micu said.



*Haier America plans to expand its plant in Camden and add 410 jobs over the next five years.
(Photo/Provided)*

The expansion of the Camden plant will support Haier's growth plans and provide a range of home appliances for U.S. consumers, the company said.

"We couldn't be prouder of the partnership our state has with Haier, and this \$72 million investment and the 410 jobs it will create is a huge win the company and for the citizens of South Carolina," Gov. Nikki Haley said.

A subsidiary of China-based Haier Group, Haier America's expansion comes on top of its initial investment of \$40 million in April 1999 when it broke ground at Camden, making it the first Chinese company to establish manufacturing operations in the United States.



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**Proposed New
State Trooper
Uniforms???**



Well, they're not gray, are they?!! It has been reported that Governor Haley and SC Department of Public Safety Director Leroy Smith have been discussing a change to color schemes for the current gray uniforms to avoid any connection to the gray military uniforms worn by officers of the former Confederate States of America (CSA). Back after the Flag came down, Aiken's Senator Tom Young said "it would stop with the flag." Well please Senator, say the pandering will not come to the uniforms!! Or cars!! (They're gray too.)