

Title: Gov. Nskks Haley Announces Statewide Prayer Vigils "We Know How To Have Compassion...We Are One State, One People"
 Author:
 Size: 17.36 column inches
 Wagener, SC Circulation: 0



Gov. Nikki Haley Announces Statewide Prayer Vigils "We Know How To Have Compassion...We Are One State, One People"

COLUMBIA, S.C. – As South Carolinians prepare for Thanksgiving and the holiday season, Governor Nikki Haley announced a day of prayer vigils throughout the state on Tuesday, November 22, 2016.

The governor, working together with leaders of the faith community, urges everyone, regardless of their faith or denomination, to pray for continued strength and healing across the state and give thanks for the state's blessings. Prayer vigils will be held in individual places of worship at 12:00 PM when bells will ring in observance of services statewide.

"Faith, prayer and helping our neighbors is what got us through a challenging time last year, and those things will get us through these two trials and the aftermath of the hurricane," said the governor. "In South Carolina, we know how to have compassion toward each other, count our blessings, and remember that we are one state, one people."

Two significant criminal trials are underway in Charleston, and many families along the coast and throughout the Pee Dee are still recovering from the effects of Hurricane Matthew.

Title: Lieutenant Governor McMaster to Hold Press Conference with Leeza Gibbons Recognizing national Family Caregiver Awareness Month in South Carolina

Author:

Size: 26.35 column inches

Wagener, SC Circulation: 0



Lieutenant Governor McMaster to Hold Press Conference with Leeza Gibbons Recognizing National Family Caregiver Awareness Month in South Carolina

WHO:
Lieutenant Governor Henry McMaster
Leeza Gibbons, Leeza's Care Connection
www.leezascareconnection.org

WHAT:
Press Conference to recognize November as National Family Caregiver Awareness Month in South Carolina

WHEN:
Thursday, November 17th at 2 p.m.

WHERE:
South Carolina State House
1st Floor

ADDITIONAL:
Governor Nikki Haley has proclaimed November as Family Caregiver Month in South Carolina.

Unpaid family caregivers provide 80% of all long term care in the U.S. Most of the 770,000+ family caregivers in South Carolina receive little or no support. Family caregivers in SC provide 737 million hours of 'free' care for their loved ones each year and are at higher risk for stress, depression, physical and financial problems and early death. The estimated economic

value of this unpaid care in South Carolina is over \$7.4 billion annually.

Family Caregivers can receive much needed assistance and

support by contacting their local Area Agency on Aging. Caregivers who receive respite

and other types of assistance are able to provide better care and avoid more expensive

institutional care for their loved ones. Each of the 10 Area Agencies on Aging has a Family Caregiver Advocate who can provide the following:

- * Information & Assistance in accessing existing community services
- * Support & Counseling
- * Caregiver Training & Education
- * Respite (A short break from caregiving)
- * Supplemental Services

Family Caregivers can find out if they are eligible for participation in these programs by calling the Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging at 1-800-868-9095 or their local Area Agency on Aging:

Region V (Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun and Orangeburg)
Lower Savannah Area
803-649-7981

Title: **Race Remains a Factor in Politics**

Author:

Size: 8.99 column inches

Columbia, SC Circulation: 36854



Race Remains a Factor in Politics

Kevin Fisher can contend that the election, and Tim Scott and Nikki Haley being in office, somehow proves race isn't still a factor. But nowhere in his column was there a mention of Walter Scott or the nine Emanuel AME victims. Nor that the election has empowered a dark element that contributed to those tragedies and a mindset that remains just as dangerous and ominous.

Not recognizing that those fissures still exist enables them to fester and grow, just as advancing Haley and Scott as somehow representing progress ignores the bleak reality that their place in public office is still far lower in proportion to the actual state and national populace.

There is much to be grateful about this Thanksgiving, and hopefully the table will be free of the divisive arguments from the past election. But there is much still to actually talk about, and much more progress to make.

James Hill
Saluda

Title: **Rec Commission Board Slowly Dwindling**
Author:
Size: 5.42 column inches
Columbia, SC Circulation: 36854



Rec Commission Board Slowly Dwindling

A second board member from the Richland County Recreation Commission has resigned. Commissioner Weston Furgess stepped down just a week after the departure of Commissioner Wilbert Lewis. Gov. Nikki Haley has issued an executive order for the removal the entire commission board, saying they enabled former commission Director James Brown III and helped foster a hostile work environment at the commission. Brown has been charged with misconduct in office and witness intimidation, and the commission is facing at least five lawsuits, some of which level accusations of sexual harassment against Brown. — *Chris Trainor*

Title: **Revenue Director Departing**

Author:

Size: 4.80 column inches

Columbia, SC Circulation: 36854



Revenue Director Departing

South Carolina Department of Revenue Director Rick Reames is stepping down. Reames has led the department since 2014, and made headlines in the Midlands over the last year as he jousting with Richland County about what he called possible “public corruption and fraud” in the county’s penny tax program. According to *The Post and Courier*, Reames said he’s currently “weighing a few options” and didn’t say whether public office might be in his future. Gov. Nikki Haley has tapped tax attorney Hartley Powell to take Reames’ place at Revenue. Reames will work until January.

— *Chris Trainor*

Title: **Haley's Cabinet Post Chances Fading After Trump Tower Meeting**
 Author: By Gavin Jackson, Emma Dumain, Schyuler Kropf and Andy Shain
 Size: 67.11 column inches
 Columbia, SC Circulation: 36854



Haley's Cabinet Post Chances Fading After Trump Tower Meeting

By Gavin Jackson, Emma Dumain, Schyuler Kropf and Andy Shain

Gov. Nikki Haley didn't provide any additional insight this week into speculation that she may be joining President-elect Donald Trump's administration, but her chances of getting a key cabinet post appear to be dimming.

Haley met Thursday with Trump in New York amid rumors that she was being considered for secretary of state, despite a heated 2016 campaign that saw the two pitted against each other for much of it.

"We have had conversations," Haley said about her contact with Trump's transition team. "As long as the president continues to ask questions, I will continue to be supportive. We want a successful Trump transition and administration."

On Sunday, however, Trump's incoming chief of staff, Reince Priebus, did not mention Haley on *Meet the Press* as one of four potential secretary of state candidates.

Haley told reporters at the State House Nov. 21 that she looks forward to working with the White House going forward. The newly elected vice chairwoman of the Republicans Governors Association said her private meeting with Trump was between "friends who had known each other."

"He was a friend and supporter before he ran for president and was kind to me then," Haley said. "But when I see something that I'm uncomfortable with, I say it."

And she did it often over the past year, whether it was Haley blasting Trump on his proposed policy to ban Muslims from entering the country, subtly knocking Trump's rhetoric in her televised State of the Union response or simply saying "Bless your heart" to his tweet calling her an embarrassment.

After neither of her top favorite candidates became the Republican nominee, Haley came around to supporting Trump and attended the convention in July.

"I don't even think we took it as personal," Haley said Monday about their seemingly personal exchanges.

The two have history: Trump donated \$5,000 to a pro-Haley political group in 2012.

Haley's comments came as a steady stream of potential Cabinet candidates continued to meet with Trump Monday. Kellyanne Conway, a senior adviser for the transition, told The Associated Press that meetings didn't necessarily equal positions in the administration.

"Not all of them [his visitors] will be in his cabinet and his federal government, but they are all incredibly important in offering their points of views, their experience and certainly their vision of the country," Conway said.

Conway told reporters last week that Haley was visiting to give Trump "her advice and her counsel" and to talk about South Carolina under her leadership.

When asked if she was prepared to move to Washington, if asked, Haley focused on statewide issues such as new economic development, wildfires in the Upstate and the upcoming annual rivalry football game pitting her alma mater, Clemson University, versus the University of South Carolina.

"I think we need to be respectful that he's making a lot of decisions and we should support him and hope he's making the best decisions he possibly can," Haley said.

Critics have questioned making a governor whose main foreign policy experience is seven international trade missions in six years as the nation's chief diplomat. Haley supporters, including Trump backer Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster, say the governor's upbringing as the daughter of Indian immigrants and good communication and problem-solving skills could help bring a fresh perspective to the post. Her husband, Michael, also spent nearly a year deployed in Afghanistan with the S.C. National Guard.

"She has a strong resume generally, but it's very thin on foreign policy," University of Virginia political scientist Larry Sabato said. "You can only learn so much at an air show. ... I think everyone is surprised Haley's name is on that list. It's not just her lack of foreign policy experience, it's also the strained relationship she had with Trump's

candidacy."

Still even meeting with Haley sent a signal that Trump is willing to mend broken fences from the campaign where the reality

television star was lambasted by even those in his own party for demonizing immigrants. Haley even remained a bit critical in a speech to the conservative Federalist Society's National Lawyers Convention a day after meeting with Trump.

"If we as Republicans are going to lead effectively and have staying power as the governing party, we must accept that Donald Trump's election was not an affirmation of the way Republicans have conducted themselves," Haley said at the Washington, D.C. gathering. "He ran against both parties, against a political system he argued was fundamentally broken, an argument the voters subscribed to in massive numbers. They rejected the political class of all stripes, Republicans included. And we have no one to blame but ourselves."

But her attitude shift toward Trump after the primaries ended did not go unnoticed in the New York businessman's camp, which was happy to have a young, minority political star back in its corner.

Meeting with Trump also bolsters Haley's future prospects with Trump in the White House. Haley is in line to become RGA chairwoman in 2018 when the important midterm elections take place.

That's the same year Haley will have to leave the governor's mansion after completing her second and final term in office. She is considered the front-runner to succeed U.S. Sen. Tim Scott if he wins an expected bid for governor in 2018.

McMaster, a former U.S. attorney and state attorney general, said he was in line for U.S. attorney general, a post given to Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions. McMaster is expected to mount a run for governor despite losing the 2010 race to Haley.

Jackson, Dumain and Kropf cover politics for The Post and Courier, Free Times' sister paper.

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Gov. Nikki Haley | Photo by John Carlos

Title: **Richland Sheriff's Department to Get Body cameras**
 Author: By Eva Moore
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Richland Sheriff's Department to Get Body Cameras

By Eva Moore

The Richland County Sheriff's Department is getting body-worn cameras thanks to more than half a million dollars from county taxpayers.

After a muddled Nov. 15 debate that left several council members visibly exasperated, Council voted 9-2 to allocate \$661,155 from the current fiscal year's budget to cameras.

The money will come largely from the county's general fund, with \$132,000 coming from a one-time state grant.

Maj. Chris Cowan, a spokesperson for the sheriff's department, says the money will go to buying 350 cameras from Taser International, plus equipment like docking stations, chargers, software and the devices that tell the cameras when to turn on automatically.

"It'll fund the equipment we need for the automatic activations — what we call trigger point activations: when you draw a taser; when your body camera's on and I come on the scene, my body camera automatically comes on; trigger points in the vehicle," he says.

Council was set to allocate slightly less money, but Cowan told council members at the Nov. 15 meeting that it wasn't enough. Cowan also was concerned that the county was voting only to allocate the money for the current fiscal year, when the contract is set to run for five years.

"In order for us to get the price that's on the table, we need to commit for five years," Cowan told Council. "If we don't get the approval for the five years we're back at the drawing board."

Council ended up approving an amended resolution from Councilman Seth Rose that added in \$34,727 in personnel funding, and said Council would enter into a five-year agreement but allocate the funding on an annual basis.

Council chairman Torrey Rush and new councilwoman Dalhi Myers were the only two members to vote against the final funding, though both said they support body-worn cameras.

"We went through a vetting process," Rush tells *Free Times*, explaining his vote. "We ended up coming up with a happy medium." But during the final vote, he says, the compromise fell apart and his colleagues

ended up giving the sheriff's department more money.

"It concerned me that we were trying to give extra numbers," he says. "You take from other things that are important to the county as well. It just throws our entire budget out of whack. ... We don't have this unlimited amount of money just sitting over there."

Council did not commit to funding the cameras in subsequent years. (Governments usually only budget one year at a time.) According to the sheriff's department, continuing the body-worn cameras contract will cost \$418,668 each year over the following four

years of the contract, plus \$121,934 each year in staffing costs.

As more attention has been paid to police shootings of citizens, body-worn cameras have gained ground as a potential solution. While groups like the ACLU have some privacy concerns about the technology, many also say knowing there's a camera on will change officers' behavior for the better.

In June, Gov. Nikki Haley signed a law requiring all law enforcement departments in the state to implement body-worn cameras.

Citizens at the meeting said body-worn cameras would help both officers and citizens.

"Body cams can go a long way in this county to solve problems before they get to be problems," said John Hinks, who serves on the sheriff's department's Citizens' Advisory Council, which reviews potential disciplinary incidents involving deputies. "I really believe the items brought before us that involve officer-involved incidents would be severely cut down if we had body cameras in those incidents."

And Perry Bradley, whose cousin was shot and killed by a highway patrolman in 2012, told Council body-worn cameras could have brought "closure for my family."

When police showed his family the video of the incident, Bradley said, "From the dashcam you only see part of it — they go off camera and then you hear the gunshots."

"With the correct body cameras I do believe that we could have had closure to that entire situation."

Title: **County School district graduation rate shines**
 Author: ROBERT MONNIE Staff Reporter
 Size: 38.59 column inches
 Cheraw, SC Circulation: 8748



County School district graduation rate shines

ROBERT MONNIE
Staff Reporter

According to its 2016 state report card released last week by the S.C. Department of Education, the four-year graduation rate for the Chesterfield County School District is 89.3 percent, which pleasantly exceeds the statewide figure of 82.6.

Continuing an upward trend that began in 2012, the district's four-year graduation now ranks 17th among South Carolina's school districts.

The four-year rates for the high schools, all of which improved from the previous year, are Chesterfield – 93.5, Cheraw – 90.1, McBee – 87.2 and Central 86.3. Of the 209 traditional public schools statewide, Chesterfield ranked 9th, Cheraw 54th, McBee 81st and Central 88th.

“This trend in the four-year graduation rate has been one that we have worked on since my arrival,” said CCSD District Superintendent Dr.

Harrison Goodwin. “We have really focused on using all of the resources available, like the alternative school, virtual courses, adult education classes and such, to not lose students early in their high school career. Most students who don’t graduate set that path in the ninth grade. Statistically, if they can finish ninth grade on time, we have a much better chance of having them graduate on time.”

The four-year graduation rate is defined as the percentage of all students (including students with disabilities) enrolled for the first time in ninth grade in the 2012-13 school year earning a standard high school diploma (not GED) in 2016, adjusted for transfers in and out of the school. Students meeting the state diploma requirements as a result of attending summer school in the summer following their senior year are included in the calculation.

The 2016 report cards for districts and schools do not include any overall ratings due to statutory changes at

the federal and state level.

While the U.S. Department of Education allowed a one-year pause in the ratings, the S.C. General Assembly passed a bill last year that was signed into law by Gov. Nikki Haley that exempted state ratings until the fall of 2017, when the state will likely go to a single accountability system.

However, state leadership decided there would still be report cards with various data summarized but with no overall rating. The rationale for this two-year hiatus was that with all of the assessment changes, there was no adequate baseline data in grades 3-8 to generate ratings, and with the elimination of the high school exit exam, there was not a way to rate the high schools in place.

The major data that are used for the state report cards are standardized testing results, including ACT, SAT, PASS and End-of-Course exams. The major input that is new is the high school graduation rate.

Title: **Statement From Gov. Nikki Haley**
 Author:
 Size: 25.73 column inches
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Statement From Gov. Nikki Haley

November 23, 2016

COLUMBIA, S.C. – Governor Nikki Haley today issued the following statement:

“Six years ago, South Carolinians bestowed upon me the greatest honor of my life. They took a chance on a little-known, 38-year old, minority, female governor – something our state had never done before. I will be forever grateful, and I expect I will never again receive a higher honor.

“In the six years that followed, our state has reached incredible heights. We made South Carolina’s economic development the envy of the nation and brought new jobs to every county. We cut our unemployment rate by more than half, employing more South Carolinians than ever before. We reformed how we fund education, moving more resources to communities in greatest need. We passed landmark ethics reforms that make state government more accountable to our people.

“Our state has also persevered through some of the most difficult times. Nature damaged many of us with the thousand-year flood and Hurricane Matthew. Our hearts were broken for those we lost when tragedy struck Walter Scott’s family, Mother Emanuel, and Townville Elementary School. Yet through it all, the greatness of our people overcame those tragedies, even coming together to heal the old wounds rep-

resented by the Confederate Flag on the Statehouse grounds.

“This month’s elections have brought exciting changes to America. Our country faces enormous challenges here at home and internationally. Last week, President-elect Trump asked if I would meet with him to discuss those challenges, which I was happy to do. He has asked that I serve our country as our next Ambassador to the United Nations. Pending confirmation by the U.S. Senate, I have agreed.

“I always expected to finish the remaining two years of my second term as governor. Not doing so is difficult because I love serving South Carolina more than anything. I was moved to accept this new assignment for two reasons. The first is a sense of duty. When the President believes you have a major contribution to make to the welfare of our nation, and to our nation’s standing in the world, that is a calling that is important to heed. The second is a satisfaction with all that we have achieved in our state in the last six years and the knowledge that we are on a very strong footing.

“I will remain as governor until the U.S. Senate acts affirmatively on my nomination. We still have much to do in South Carolina, and my commitment to the people of our state will always remain unbreakable, both while I continue to hold this office, and thereafter.

“In this holiday season, we all have much to be thankful for. Michael and I wish every South Carolinian a joyous Thanksgiving.”

Title: **Haley gains national reputation as a healer-in-chief**
 Author: BY SEANNA ADCOX Associated Press
 Size: 52.85 column inches
 Georgetown, SC Circulation: 8446



Haley gains national reputation as a healer-in-chief

BY SEANNA ADCOX

Associated Press

Gov. Nikki Haley has developed a national reputation as a racial conciliator who led the charge to bring down the Confederate flag at the Statehouse and guided South Carolina through one of its darkest moments, the massacre at a black church.

Now the 44-year-old American-born daughter of Indian immigrants is about to take her role as the state's healer-in-chief to a world stage, as U.N. ambassador.

On Wednesday, Haley became the first woman and first minority chosen by President-elect Donald Trump for his Cabinet.

If the Senate confirms her, she could find herself in the awkward position of being the international voice for an administration that has belittled the United Nations, promised to build a wall along the Mexican border and endeared itself to the alt-right movement, even though Trump has repudiated such groups.

Haley may have offered a glimpse last week of how she will approach the job.

"Faith with action and kindness and love will always take us where we want to go," the Republican governor said at Eman-

uel AME Church in Charleston, where a white man gunned down nine black parishioners in June 2015.

Haley drew wide praise for her leadership after the attack, as she conveyed the state's grief and successfully led calls to bring down the Confederate flag that had flown on the Statehouse grounds for 54 years. The shootings were motivated by "pure hate," she said then, and will "forever change the way I live my life."

Last week, churches across the state honored Haley's request for prayer vigils amid the nearly simultaneous murder trials of the defendant in the church massacre and a white former police officer accused of fatally shooting a black motorist in the back.

Her handling of the racially charged events bolstered her national image, said longtime GOP operative Richard Quinn. "It became a national example of how you can deal with racial issues peacefully," he said.

Other crises Haley has grappled with over the past two years include historic flooding in 2015, an elementary school shooting

last September, Hurricane Matthew last month and wildfires that continue to rage in the state's northwestern corner.

"The one constant is when things we didn't understand happened, the action was people stood hand in hand and loved each other. They didn't look for someone to blame, or hate. They looked for someone to love and lift people up," she said, in calling for the same approach as the trials and the disaster recovery play out.

Born Nimrata Nikki Randhawa in rural Bamberg, Haley was raised a Sikh. She says she converted to Christianity before marrying her husband, Michael, in 1996. They have two children, ages 18 and 15.

Haley has recalled that as a youngster, she and her sister were disqualified from the segregated Little Miss Bamberg Pageant because organizers couldn't figure out if the girls should compete in the white or the black contest.

She confronted religious slurs over her Sikh roots during her 2010 campaign.

The second-term governor, who can't seek a third term, was a Trump critic during the White

House campaign. She asked Americans to resist "the siren call of the angriest voices" in how the nation treats immigrants.

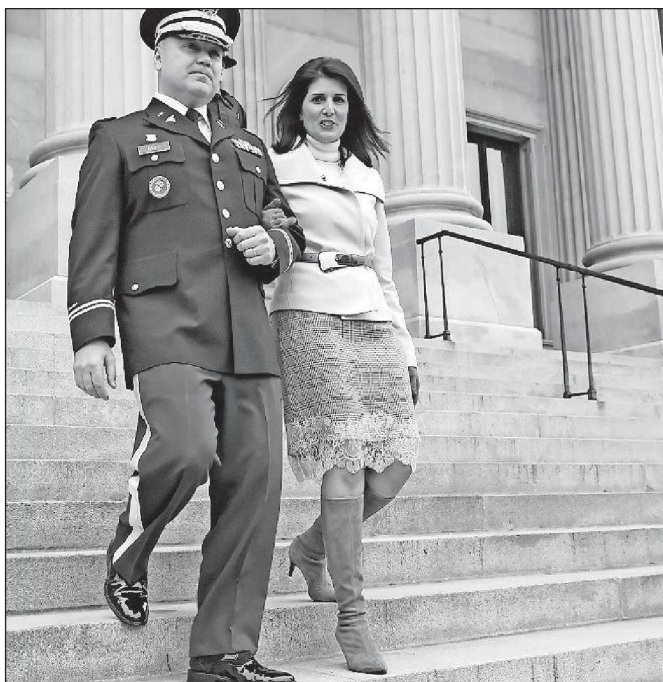
But she has also fought the Obama administration on both legal and illegal immigration.

Haley, the second U.S. governor of Indian heritage, is the first S.C. governor who is not a white man. She is also the nation's youngest governor. She brings limited international experience to one of the U.S. government's most important international assignments. Almost all of her exposure on the world stage has been in pursuit of luring jobs to S.C.

Michelin, Bridgestone, Continental, Trelleborg and Giti Tire all have announced new or expanded operations in recent years, bolstering South Carolina's reputation as the nation's tire capital.

Her trips abroad to lure jobs include a 2015 secretive trip to Sweden, which was followed weeks later by an announcement that Volvo would build its first U.S. auto plant in S.C. in exchange for more than \$200 million in state incentives. In 2014, Haley took an economic development trip to India.

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FILE/RICHARD SHIRO/AP//

Gov. Nikki Haley, with husband Michael in Columbia, is President-elect Donald Trump's choice as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.