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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Democrats want roads fixed before South Carolina becomes the Pothole State
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150613/PC1603/150619761>

Cynthia Roldan

South Carolina's Democrats don't want the Palmetto State to become known as the Pothole State. House Democratic leaders say they're frustrated the session ended without a fix for the state's crumbling roads, and they're planning on a last-ditch effort in the coming week's special session to prevent South Carolina from getting a new, less complimentary nickname.

Note: It also gave Gov. Nikki Haley more control over the Department of Transportation, reduced the state income tax and had an option, coupled with an incentive, for counties to take over maintenance of more local roads.

Florence Morning News: SC Legislature to tackle budget impasse

http://www.scnow.com/news/politics/article_9502d072-1218-11e5-ae1e-f34aa808ccfd.html

Gavin Jackson

More money caused more problems for the South Carolina legislature this year as surpluses rendered lawmakers unable to pass a \$7 billion budget before its five month regular session concluded on June 4. Now lawmakers will return for a three-day special session, that will stretch on for an indeterminate time, to put a spending plan in place before July 1.

Note: Should, for example, it be passed on June 30, Gov. Nikki Haley would have up to five days, excluding Sunday—so July 6—to return her budget vetoes to the legislature.

Post and Courier: Nikki Haley, Bobby Jindal explain their faith during The Response prayer meeting Saturday

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150613/PC1603/150619681>

Schuyler Kropf

Evangelicals worshiped and swayed to gospel songs inside the North Charleston Coliseum on Saturday as part of "The Response: a Call to Prayer for Our Nation," where Gov. Nikki Haley asked for blessings on families, troops and those struggling to break free from the addiction of drugs and alcohol.

Note: "Please, help lift up a country and know that the one thing we need to believe in, is you," Haley said during her brief appearance on stage.

WCSC: Haley among hundreds to attend coliseum prayer event

<http://www.live5news.com/story/29312597/haley-among-hundreds-to-attend-coliseum-prayer-event>

DaShawn Brown

Prayer event, The Response, didn't draw a capacity crowd at the North Charleston Coliseum, but hundreds across many denominations filed into the building for a day of prayer and fasting for America. Coliseum officials were expecting attendees to fill at 13,000 seats, but saw nearly half the facility occupied into the morning session.

Note: Haley made no mention of her critics, but addressed the room for several minutes, also leading a prayer. "We will never apologize for prayer in our state and in our country," she said.

Rock Hill Herald: How will S.C.'s new body camera law affect local police agencies?

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/crime/article24129787.html#storylink=cpy>

Teddy Kulmala

Gov. Nikki Haley on Wednesday signed a bill requiring all South Carolina law enforcement officers to be outfitted with body cameras, but all officers might not wear the cameras for another year. Within six months of Wednesday's bill signing, the Law Enforcement Training Council, an 11-member panel that includes York

County Sheriff Bruce Bryant, must study the use, implementation and cost of body cameras in departments currently using the devices.

Florence Morning News: Expanded tax credits expected to spur redevelopment

http://www.scnow.com/news/politics/article_ea1f8e38-1218-11e5-add1-6ba05aadd837.html

Gavin Jackson

Incentives to redevelop historic buildings in the state became more advantageous last week after Gov. Nikki Haley signed a bill to more than double a state tax credit. The move benefits developers from downtown Florence to Charleston and historic buildings across the state thanks to the bill by a Columbia Democrat, Rep. James E. Smith, bill that increased the state's 10 percent tax credit to 25 percent.

Associated Press: 5 things to watch at next week's Paris Air Show

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150612/PC05/150619736/1012/5-things-to-watch-at-next-week-x2019-s-paris-air-show>

Greg Keller

Just eight miles from the center of Paris, the normally sleepy aerodrome in Le Bourget will undergo its biennial transformation into the center of the world's \$700 billion aerospace and defense industry when it hosts the 51st International Paris Air Show next week.

Note: Skipper said the air show visits have paid off in the past. For example, Gov. Nikki Haley and Commerce Secretary Bobby Hitt first met executives with Toray Industries at the 2011 show.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Greenville News: Extra road money won't go far in Greenville County

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2015/06/14/extra-road-money-go-far-greenville-county/71149288/>

Tim Smith

If lawmakers decide in the coming weeks to send \$150 million of surplus revenue to county transportation committees for state secondary roads, Greenville County's share would pave about 29 miles of roads, officials say. That's less than the distance between Greenville and Spartanburg.

The State: Latest roads plan 'is (like) a raindrop in Lake Murray'

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article24040078.html>

Cassie Cope

Richland County would get \$7.2 million for road repairs if legislators approve a S.C. House proposal this week. Lexington County would get \$5.9 million and Kershaw County would get \$3 million. That money would come from spending \$150 million of a \$322.4 million state budget surplus on roads.

Associated Press: A look at Ways and Means' supplemental budget plan

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ZLBNTZGk

Here's a look at the supplemental spending proposal the House will debate when legislators return Tuesday. It spends \$302 million in additional general fund revenue that state economic advisers certified May 29 as available to spend in 2015-16:

S.C. Political News:

The State: THE BUZZ: Great Scott! Senator's town halls could shape 2016 election

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article24081730.html#storylink=cpy>

The path to winning the 2016 Republican S.C. presidential primary appears to be going through U.S. Sen. Tim Scott. The North Charleston Republican told The Buzz last week that he has commitments from all the top GOP White House hopefuls to attend one of his town hall meetings.

The Dems are chatting, too: Scott is not the only S.C. politico hosting White House hopefuls. The S.C. Democratic Party is launching a Web series called "Chair Chats" with state chairman Jaime Harrison interviewing Democratic presidential hopefuls and other party leaders.

2016 in S.C.: Jeb Bush: The former Florida governor will hold a veterans town hall at the Charleston Maritime Center at 10 a.m. Thursday, three days after he is expected to announce formally his bid for the Republican presidential nomination.

Davis finds 'suit'-able attire: State Sen. Tom Davis is a fiscal conservative willing to filibuster spending

bills so he can get his way. But the Beaufort Republican spent some state dough – from his per diem and mileage reimbursement – to avoid a clothing faux pas last week.

Post and Courier: Clinton fundraiser hosted by Akim of 'Don't Scream, Call Akim!' fame

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150613/PC1603/150619787>

Democratic presidential frontrunner Hillary Clinton will headline her first South Carolina campaign fundraiser on Wednesday at the Charleston home of husband-and-wife attorneys Akim and Constance Anastopoulo.

Gilliard gets ceremonial body-cam signing pen: Bill-signings often happen with little or short notice because governors have busy schedules, and Gov. Nikki Haley's schedule last week was packed. It included multiple trips throughout the state and a visit to Washington, D.C.

Charleston mayoral race ebb and flow: The exact number of candidates seeking to succeed Charleston Mayor Joe Riley won't be known until filing for city offices closes on Aug. 17.

Oliver North: I shall return: Retired Marine and media personality Oliver North returns to Charleston next month with the Concerned Veterans for America's "Defend Freedom Tour" on July 11 at The Citadel.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Mike Huckabee helps launch ministry to care for orphans in Uganda

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20150612/ARTICLES/150619876/1083/ARTICLES?Title=Mike-Huckabee-helps-launch-ministry-to-care-for-orphans-in-Uganda&tc=ar>

Several hundred people celebrated the global launch of Benjamin House Ministries on Friday evening, including presidential candidate Mike Huckabee, who jammed with musicians from Anderson Mill Road Baptist Church. Bucky Rogers, executive director of Benjamin House, and his wife, Julie, built their family of six through adoption, including a child with special needs.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

The State: Just when you thought SC Legislature couldn't get any worse

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scoppe/article23854549.html>

Cindi Ross Scoppe

SENATE Finance Chairman Hugh Leatherman says he's determined to get a state budget passed by the start of the fiscal year on July 1. Of course, it was also Sen. Leatherman who advised senators last month to bring their pajamas to work the following week, because he intended to keep the Senate in session until it broke a filibuster that was holding up work on the budget.

Note: Pay for the Volvo incentives. We don't usually pay cash for giant economic-incentive packages such as the one Gov. Nikki Haley promised Volvo for building its first U.S. manufacturing facility in the Lowcountry.

Post and Courier: Finish the budget, then go home

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150614/PC1002/150619674>

Editorial

One essential duty of the S.C. General Assembly is approving a budget, but in this year of legislative impasse even that's apparently too much to expect. Without a decision next week, state government will have to operate on a continuing resolution after June 30. That is not an acceptable option.

Index-Journal: Veteran tuition bill least we could do

<http://indexjournal.com/opinion/editorial/Veteran-tuition-bill-least-we-could-do>

Editorial

For too long, South Carolina law kept college out of reach for too many student veterans. Before the passage of a bill sponsored by state Sen. Tom Young, R-Aiken, during this past session, a one-year wait time existed for service members leaving the military to receive in-state tuition.

Post and Courier: North Charleston is already advancing oversight of police

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150614/PC1002/150619666>

Keith Summey

I offer a response to the call for the City of North Charleston to create a new citizens' oversight board and make other changes in the aftermath of the Walter Scott tragedy. The public would not be well served by allowing hasty adoption of un-vetted demands to replace the government process that has guided this city and this country since their founding.

Post and Courier: Former GE plant in Charleston County shows ebb, flow of economy

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150614/PC05/150619788>

John McDermott

General Electric hasn't been innovating and making money since the 1890s by sitting on its hands. The multinational conglomerate that traces its roots to Thomas Edison is constantly bobbing and weaving as economic conditions change. Last week, for instance, it continued to dismantle its once-mighty GE Capital lending empire by unloading a piece of that business for \$12 billion.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Our community's most vulnerable need our help

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20150614/OPINION/506141011/1128?Title=Our-community-8217-s-most-vulnerable-need-our-help&tc=ar>

Editorial

By any measure, the numbers are disturbing: The percentage of reported child abuse cases to a local child advocacy organization is on pace to increase by double digits for the second consecutive year. That news comes from Suzy Cole, executive director of The Children's Advocacy Center of Spartanburg, Cherokee and Union counties, detailed in a Herald-Journal article in last Monday's edition.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: 3 more positive tests for E. coli at Greenwood day care

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zvu9Davy

Health officials say testing has found three more cases of E. coli from an outbreak at a Greenwood day care center that has now sickened 11 and killed a 2-year-old boy. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control says the three newest cases all involved people who have recovered from the vomiting and diarrhea caused by the bacteria or never showed symptoms.

The State: Volvo's first SC dealer expects boost from automaker's first US plant

<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/article24056113.html#storylink=cpy>

Jeff Wilkinson, Andrew Shain

In 1969, Dick Dyer moved from Charlotte to Columbia to open a Mercedes-Benz dealership on Two Notch Road in partnership with his longtime boss, Bill Beck. Two years later, Dyer, who sold cars for Beck with eventual Charlotte Motor Speedway owner Bruton Smith, opened South Carolina's first Volvo dealership next to his Mercedes lot – labeling his cars “A Dick Dyer Original.”

Index-Journal: DHEC: E. coli cases at 11

<http://indexjournal.com/news/DHEC--E--coli-cases-at-11>

Daniel Perry

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control announced early Friday evening the number of Shiga toxin-producing E. coli cases in Greenwood County has risen to 11 people. The cases are all tied to people affiliated with the Learning Vine Child Development Center on Overland Drive and their relatives, according to the agency.

Post and Courier: One year after his contentious hiring, can College of Charleston President Glenn McConnell win over his critics?

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150613/PC16/150619738>

Deanna Pan

Inside his office at Randolph Hall, Glenn McConnell's painted portrait sits on the floor in the far right corner, propped against the wall. It's a stoic, vague and slightly creepy resemblance of the College of Charleston's president in his typical uniform: suit, tie, rim-less glasses, hair parted dramatically to the side.

Post and Courier: Like shootings, suspected officer-involved suicides raise suspicion

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150613/PC16/150619868>

Andrew Knapp

When investigators said Denzel Curnell pointed a revolver at his head and squeezed the trigger, they made a determination that put the 19-year-old into a small group of people who made a snap decision to end their own lives with a police officer nearby. But in the year since then, Curnell's family has refused to accept that official account.

Local News:

Sun News: Roads, jobs, safety top priorities for Horry council District 6 race

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/politics-government/election/article23854882.html#storylink=cpy>

Jason M. Rodriguez

Public safety, economic growth and roads are overwhelmingly the three issues that the six candidates running for Horry County Council District 6 say are the most important in the county. A special election is set for Tuesday to elect a new councilman to replace Bob Grabowski, who committed suicide in March.

Greenville News: Small tax hike in Fountain Inn's new fiscal budget

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/golden-strip/2015/06/13/small-tax-hike-fountain-inns-new-fiscal-budget/71181046/>

Scott Keeler

Fountain Inn citizens will see a small hike in taxes as the 2015-16 fiscal budget calls for a 5-mil increase. City Council passed the final reading of the budget at its monthly meeting Thursday night. City administrator Eddie Case said the increase breaks down to three mils for operation, which equates to about \$75,000, and two mils to provide about \$50,000 for the city's reserve fund.

National News:

New York Times: U.S. Is Poised to Put Heavy Weaponry in Eastern Europe

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/14/world/europe/us-poised-to-put-heavy-weaponry-in-east-europe.html?_r=0

Eric Schmitt, Steven Lee Meyers

In a significant move to deter possible Russian aggression in Europe, the Pentagon is poised to store battle tanks, infantry fighting vehicles and other heavy weapons for as many as 5,000 American troops in several Baltic and Eastern European countries, American and allied officials say.

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