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Governor Nikki Haley News:

The State: SC Politics: Gov. Haley campaigns in Virginia

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/10/17/3042805/sc-politics-gov-haley-campaigns.html#storylink=cpy>

S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley spent Wednesday campaigning in Virginia with fellow Republican Ken Cuccinelli in his bid to be governor of that state. Haley joined Cuccinelli to tour a sheet-metal fabrication business. They discussed health care and government regulation with three brothers who started the business in 1990. Haley said the federal budget and debt ceiling standoff in Washington shouldn't damage Republican prospects in the Virginia governor's race, which is less than three weeks away, but underscores the need for governors like herself and Cuccinelli. Haley also challenged Democratic candidate for governor Terry McAuliffe to release his income tax returns to resolve questions about where and how he earned his money

Charlottesville Newsplex: Cuccinelli Appears with SC Governor Nikki Haley in Ablemarle

<http://www.newsplex.com/home/headlines/Cuccinelli-Appears-with-SC-Governor-Nikki-Haley-in-Ablemarle-228099151.html>

Rachel Ryan

Republican Candidate for Virginia Governor Ken Cuccinelli made a visit to his campaign headquarters in Albemarle County Wednesday alongside South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, in order to drum up support after falling poll numbers. Cuccinelli has been falling in the polls compared to Democrat Terry McAuliffe for the past several weeks. According the websiteRealClearPolitics.com, McAuliffe averages a 7.2 point lead over Cuccinelli between four major polls.

Note: Governor Haley adds that polling, especially done on individual issues, does not reflect how people will vote in November. "What is amazing to me is you can't just go and say, you were winning on women's issues because everyone woman knows we're smarter than that. We don't decide based on one issue. We decide who we're gonna vote for based on a lot of issues"

Greenville News: Upstate cancer doctor awarded Order of Palmetto

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20131016/NEWS/310160077/Upstate-cancer-doctor-awarded-Order-Palmetto>

Liv Osby

Dr. Julian Josey, a cancer physician with Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System who co-founded the Gibbs Cancer Center, has been awarded the Order of the Palmetto, the state's highest civilian honor. A native of Spartanburg, Josey has been caring for cancer patients for more than 40 years. He attended Wofford College, the Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest University and Emory University before serving in the U.S. Army at Fort Benjamin Harrison and with the Ninth Infantry Division in Vietnam.

Note: State Rep. Rita Allison presented the award, reading an accompanying letter from Gov. Nikki Haley. "You have taken a journey with so many people to find peace and comfort and healing, and we thank you from the bottom of our heart," she said. "You are a model for all this is good about our state and its fine citizens."

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

The State: SC Gov. Haley, Sen. Sheheen headline party fundraisers

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/10/16/2740576/haley-sheheen-headline-party-fundraisers.html#storylink=cpy>

Adam Beam

South Carolina's two candidates for governor will be headlining fundraisers for their respective political parties – and each candidate is criticizing the other for it. Republican Gov. Nikki Haley of Lexington will speak at a Republican Party fundraiser Nov. 6 at the Lace House, on the grounds of the Governor's

Mansion. Democratic state Sen. Vincent Sheheen of Camden will appear at a South Carolina Democratic Party fundraiser Thursday in New York City.

Note: Meanwhile, the Haley campaign said Sheheen was taking money from “out-of-state special-interest backers,” adding Sheheen “is scheduled to collect thousands of dollars from liberal out-of-state special interest backers of President Obama and the Obama-Sheheen health-care takeover.”

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Aiken Standard: Lieutenant governor will increasingly be spring board

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20131017/AIK0201/131019532/1018/AIK02/editorial-lieutenant-governor-will-increasingly-be-spring-board>

Editorial

It's a part-time job with little power, but it's still expected to garner a lot of attention when 2014 rolls around. The upcoming campaign for the state's lieutenant governor spot should make for some interesting story lines, especially if it pits incumbent Glenn McConnell, R-Charleston, against Rep. Bakari Sellers, D-Bamberg. McConnell, the retired attorney who co-owned a Civil War heritage shop in Charleston, will be running for statewide office for the first time if he decides to seek re-election. As will his likely opponent, Sellers, the 28-year-old son of a civil rights activist, who will be visiting Aiken today as part of a Democratic Party fundraiser. Retired Charleston developer Pat McKinney, a close ally of S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley, has also announced he'll be seeking the job, but will face an uphill battle against the well-connected McConnell in the GOP primary.

Rock Hill Herald: Outside ethics panel needed

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/10/16/5311954/outside-ethics-panel-needed.html>

Editorial

When an ethics reform bill failed to pass in the state Senate at the end of the 2013 session, there was hope senators might pass it when they return in January. Unfortunately, senators appear just as unlikely to pass a bill with teeth in it this time as they were the last time. The Senate bill required more transparency from lawmakers regarding sources of income and donations, and had stiffer enforcement mechanisms than the House version. Significantly, it also proposed an outside commission appointed by the governor and Legislature to investigate ethics complaints. Following the investigation, the commission would report its findings to the House and Senate Ethics committees, which would decide what, if any, action was necessary.

The State (Guest Column): SC Collaboration Promotes Technology Skills Across Careers

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=44RYx2C1

Bobby Hitt

We all recognize that in our increasingly technological world, a workforce strong in IT skills is necessary for a growing and robust economy. But when you consider that every career path touches technology, it becomes clear that the need for a workforce with digital skills is even greater than it appears. As the availability of a technically skilled workforce continues to drive business-location and -expansion decisions, it is critical that our institutions of higher learning work in tandem with businesses to address their needs, both now and in the future. That's why this week, the University of South Carolina, Benedict College, Columbia College and Midlands Technical College - along with the S.C. Department of Commerce - came together to announce Coursepower, an unprecedented collaboration between government, institutions of higher learning and local businesses to create a workforce strong in basic technical skills right here in the Midlands.

Greenville News: Drop partisan elections in city

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013310170006>

Editorial

When voters in most cities go to the polls to elect their mayor and council members, they make their decisions based purely on whether they think a candidate has the best ideas in terms of providing police and fire protection, taking care of city streets and sidewalks, and providing a vision for future growth and development. Whether the candidate is a Republican or Democrat is not part of that equation. That's unless the candidate for mayor or city council is running in the city of Greenville. Then, as in just a handful of cities in South Carolina, the candidate has to declare whether he or she is a Democrat or Republican. Next the candidate faces the prospect of a party primary. And then if that candidate survives the primary, he or she may have to run in a general election.

Florence Morning News: Sweating the small stuff

http://www.scnw.com/opinion/editorials/article_f4ef70f4-36a9-11e3-9046-001a4bcf6878.html

Editorial

Taken as a whole, we like the idea of a livability court in Florence that city council members conditionally approved this week. The court, which is based off a model created in Charleston (a city that prides itself on its civility) about a decade ago, will strictly enforce nuisance codes such as dilapidated properties, noise violations and other minor infraction that clog the city court system. Florence Mayor Stephen J. Wukela said there are roughly 2,500 dilapidated, abandoned properties in the city that will keep the court busy. Those kinds of eyesores make an impression and affect the collective livability of a town. Without strict code enforcements, violators are typically slapped on the wrist, with little worry that the police would follow up on a judge's orders or the periodic fines they do pay are simply a cost of doing business.

South Carolina News:**The State:** A Call To Keep Violent Offenders Behind Bars

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=RkKGAbK3

Harrison Cahill and Cassie Cope

State and city officials, in a flurry of news conferences Wednesday, said bonding reform for violent crime suspects, such as the one charged with shooting USC student Martha Childress, has to be a government priority. Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin on Wednesday said he is putting on a fast track discussions calling for changes in the legal system to crack down on repeat violent criminals. Surrounded by half a dozen community leaders, Benjamin spoke at a midday news conference on the steps of the State House about the need for judiciary and bond reform.

Rock Hill Herald: Mulvaney dissatisfied with deal to end shutdown, stave off default

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/10/16/5312023/mulvaney-dissatisfied-with-deal.html#storylink=cpy>

Jie Jenny Zou

U.S. Rep. Mick Mulvaney said he was dissatisfied with a last-minute deal by congressional leaders on Wednesday to reopen the federal government and temporarily shelve the debt ceiling debate. "I don't know how you look at it as a victory," said Mulvaney, a Republican from Indian Land who represents York, Chester and Lancaster counties. "I don't see that as a success." The current agreement would fund the government through Jan. 15 and raise the debt ceiling until Feb. 7 – giving Republicans and Democrats more time to reconcile on spending issues.

Greenville News: Orangeburg attorney eyeing run against Sen. Graham

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013310170007>

Rudolph Bell

An Orangeburg attorney who ran unsuccessfully for lieutenant governor said he doesn't see a credible challenger to U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham among the three Republicans running against Graham now and he's thinking about doing it himself. Bill Connor, who sought the GOP nomination for lieutenant governor in 2010 but lost to Ken Ard, said he likes some of the Republicans challenging Graham "but I wouldn't even be considering this if I thought there was a credible candidate that could beat Lindsey." Connor said he's a "constitutional conservative" but disagrees with some that the United States should never fight abroad.

Greenville News: SCDOT commission meets in Greenville today

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013310170013>

Rudolph Bell

State highway commissioners get to work in Greenville today after spending some time along Main Street yesterday evening. Transportation Secretary Robert St. Onge Jr. and the nine members of the South Carolina Transportation Commission are scheduled to conduct business all morning and into the afternoon in County Council chambers at County Square. The commission tries to meet outside of Columbia once or twice a year, usually in the fall, and this time Chairman John P. Edwards, who's from Travelers Rest, suggested Greenville, said Tina Kennedy, events coordinator for the state Transportation Department.

The State: S.C. economic growth slows

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013310170010>

Roddie Burris

South Carolina's economic growth is steady, but the growth rate has slowed this year, according to Joey Von Nessen, a research economist with the University of South Carolina. "We're still growing, but growing at

a slightly reduced rate compared to 2012 and even 2011," Von Nessen told a sold-out room of business leaders Tuesday at the 2013 Central Carolina Commercial real estate market forecast. A panel provided industry perspectives on commercial prospects in banking, construction and development, real estate development and property investment.

The State: Tourism officials urge more state house tours

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013310170020>

Andrew Shain

Columbia-area tourism officials want the State House to open for tours every Saturday, saying the historic structure would be a draw for the city's 4 million visitors each year. "We want to give visitors an opportunity to go home with some history," Ric Lubber, president of the Midlands Authority for Conventions, Sports and Tourism, told lawmakers on the State House Committee on Wednesday. The center of state government -- surrounded by statues of politicians and war memorials -- is key to growing the region's \$1 billion-a-year tourism industry, Lubber said. The State House now is open tours during weekdays and only one Saturday -- the first -- of each month.

Post and Courier: Some covered by individual insurance policies will have limited choices for doctors, hospitals next year

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131016/PC16/131019527/1006/>

Lauren Sausser

Lowcountry residents shopping for a new health insurance plan with coverage starting Jan. 1 may be forced to choose between their preferred insurance company and their preferred doctor or hospital. That's because individual plans purchased through the new federal health insurance marketplace, and even some plans bought outside the marketplace, will have fewer in-network providers than many patients are accustomed to. "Who you can go to will change dramatically, and a lot of people don't realize that," said Colin Smoak, a Charleston benefits consultant. "A lot of people have developed relationships with physicians or a hospital and may have to forgo that relationship."

Seneca Journal: Rosa Clark director: Most patients do not qualify for ACA

<https://upstatetoday.com/2013/10/rosa-clark-director-most-patients-do-not-qualify-for-aca/>

Greg Oliver

Rosa Clark Executive Director Vicki Thompson said there is currently an assumption that free health clinics, such as the one she heads, will soon no longer be needed since all patients will be covered under the Affordable Care Act. That assumption, Thompson points out, is wrong. Thompson told The Journal that less than 10 percent of the 3,025 patients the clinic has seen as of the end of September do not qualify. Making matters even more difficult, she said donations to the clinic are down nearly \$13,000 (\$18,675.96 from January to September 2013) from the same time last year (\$31,584.51), even though the clinic is the one life raft still available to its patients in need of medicine and medical care.

Anderson Independent: Local school districts should have more autonomy, state education superintendent says

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/oct/16/local-school-districts-should-have-more-autonomy/>

Sarah Freishtat

Anderson County schools should change lesson plans and allow students more flexible class hours, said state Superintendent of Education Mick Zais. Zais said though Anderson County schools are performing above expectations, they would improve further if they had more control over their curricula and had fewer dictates from the state. He was in town Wednesday afternoon for the State of Education Summit at Tri-County Technical College, where he and superintendents from all five districts discussed plans to prepare students for technical careers after high school. "The fact is, we've got more college graduates in South Carolina than we need," Zais said. Zais toured Nevitt Forest Community School of Innovation Wednesday morning and Anderson Five Charter School in the afternoon, highlighting them as schools that provide flexible schedules and varieties of teaching styles.

GSA Business: South Carolina, Israel ink research and development agreement

<http://www.gsabusiness.com/news/49196-south-carolina-israel-ink-research-and-development-agreement?rss=0>

Ashley Boncimino

South Carolina and Israel signed an agreement today to facilitate cooperation for joint industrial research and development projects. South Carolina Commerce Secretary Bobby Hitt and Consul General of Israel to

the Southeast United States Opher Aviran signed the agreement in Columbia Tuesday. The partnership was initially announced in May during the two-day U.S.-Israel Neurotechnology Business Exchange in Charleston by Hitt and Israel's economic minister to North America Nili Shalev. The agreement creates a funding mechanism for joint collaborations between South Carolina and Israeli companies and universities and will be carried out by SCRA and its counterpart MATIMOP, the Israeli Industry Center for R&D.

Associated Press: SC taking part in southeastern earthquake drills

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0plX0lfK

People across South Carolina are taking part in activities to prepare them for an earthquake. The Great Southeast ShakeOut Earthquake Drill is happening on Thursday and is part of Earthquake Awareness Week. The South Carolina Emergency Management Division says more than 232,000 people in the state have registered to participate in the drills that begin at 10:17 a.m. Across the region, more than 1.6 million people have signed up. Officials say 11 earthquakes have been confirmed in South Carolina this year. Geologists at the College of Charleston say there are typically 10 to 20 earthquakes annually in the state.

Local News:

Anderson Independent: School districts appeal federal letter grades

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/oct/16/school-districts-appeal-federal-letter-grades/>

Sarah Freishtat

Two Anderson County school districts argued they deserved letter grades higher than the ones they were assigned by the state last year. Anderson School District 5, based in the city of Anderson, was the only district in the state that will receive a new grade after its appeal. Williamston-based School District 1 also appealed the grade it received, but that appeal was overturned. The letter grades measure student growth at both the school and district level. A score of C means the district has met the state average. District 5, which received a B overall, argued one of its schools received an incorrect grade.

Times and Democrat: County moving ahead to protect 'penny' projects

http://thetandd.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/county-moving-ahead-to-protect-penny-projects/article_f9d8dc32-36bc-11e3-929d-0019bb2963f4.html

Martha Rose Brown

Orangeburg County officials are taking steps to protect projects funded through the capital projects sales tax – a 1 percent tax that Orangeburg County voters overwhelmingly supported in November 2010. The tax is expected to raise \$84 million over seven years for a variety of building projects throughout the county, such as paving roads and creating recreation areas. But a case before the South Carolina Supreme Court involving Florence County's use of its capital projects sales tax may impact Orangeburg County, as well as other counties with the so-called "penny tax." Orangeburg County officials say they are not sure how, or if, the Florence County case will affect the local tax.

Sun News: Ithaca Gun Company coming to Horry County

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/10/16/3776905/ithaca-gun-company-coming-to-horry.html#storylink=cpy>

Amanda Kelley

The Ithaca Gun Company will expand manufacturing operations in the southeast with a new location in Horry County, said Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation president Brad Lofton. The Ohio-based firearms manufacturer announced the decision Wednesday, which will include a capital investment of approximately \$6.7 million while creating 120 new jobs, Lofton said. The jobs will include machine operators, gunsmiths, engineers, and assemblers that are expected to earn wages "significantly higher than the Horry County average wage," according to a press release. "We are delighted to be a part of the growing firearms manufacturing industry in the Myrtle Beach area," Mike Farrell, with Ithaca Gun Company said in a press release.

Sun News: Questions over \$170,000 audit stalls Horry County's plan for energy conservation

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/10/16/3776105/questions-over-170000-audit-stalls.html#storylink=cpy>

Jason M. Rodriguez

Horry County's effort to conserve energy in its government complex and 25 other buildings hit a bump in the road recently as County Councilmen questioned the \$170,000 it must pay electric service provider Pepco for an investment grade audit whether the county picks the company to follow through with the contract or not.

Pepco is an electric utility company that has been talking with Horry County since February about improving its energy efficiency. The company presented the county's Infrastructure and Regulation committee with a preliminary showing of \$290,000 in annual savings earlier this year, which showed the county would have to make about \$4.3 million in improvements.

Associated Press: Columbia hosting small business health care forum

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

Columbia is offering small business owners a chance to learn about changes to health care. The City of Columbia will host the first of two Affordable Care Act Forums for Small Business Owners on Thursday. Small business owners with five or more employees can attend the free event. Panelists from organizations including BlueCross Shield of South Carolina will be on hand to talk about ways small businesses can save money and how they'll be impacted by the new law. A second session is planned for Oct. 23.

Island Packet: Tests: Beaufort County sludge clean of PCBs

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/10/16/2741135/beaufort-countys-sludge-is-clean.html#storylink=cpy>

Zach Murdock

Test results show no cancer-causing industrial chemicals in sludge produced by Beaufort County sewage-treatment plants, according to local water-utility officials. The tests were part of a S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control emergency order, following the discovery of high levels of the chemicals, called PCBs, in some Upstate sewage-treatment plants that discharge into rivers. All the treatment facilities in Beaufort County -- including Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority and the Broad Creek, South Island and Hilton Head Island public service districts -- sent samples for independent testing in the past three weeks, officials from each organization said.

National News:

Associated Press: Gov't reopens after Congress ends 16-day shutdown

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_325150/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=t70mlsFO

Andrew Taylor

The government reopened its doors Thursday after a battle-weary Congress approved a bipartisan measure to end a 16-day partial shutdown and avert the possibility of an economy-jarring default on U.S. obligations. Early Thursday, President Barack Obama signed the measure, which the House and Senate passed late Wednesday, ending a brawl with Republicans who tried to use the must-pass legislation to mount a last-ditch effort to derail the president's landmark health care law and demand concessions on the budget. The White House directed all agencies to reopen promptly and in an orderly fashion. Furloughed federal employees across the country are expected to return to work Thursday.

Associated Press: Booker wins Senate seat in NJ, must campaign soon

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_289563/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=vujbS5KT

Angela Delli Santi and Katie Zezima

New Jersey's U.S. senator-elect says he's ready to go to Washington and channel Americans' frustration with Congress into energy for change. Newark Mayor Cory Booker appeared on MSNBC's "Morning Joe" on Thursday, hours after he defeated Republican Steve Lonegan in a special Senate election. Booker will fill the seat left vacant by the June death of Frank Lautenberg. Booker says some of the comments people have made to him about the state of affairs in Washington mimic what people told him when he was elected Newark's mayor in 2006.

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