

From: Taillon, Jeff
To: Taillon, Jeff <JeffTaillon@gov.sc.gov>
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Governor Nikki Haley News

Associated Press: S.C. uses personal touch to woo Conn. gun maker

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/viewart/20130701/NEWS/307010095/S-C-uses-personal-touch-woo-Conn-gun-maker>

JEFFREY COLLINS

When Connecticut gun maker PTR Industries was trying to find a new home, CEO Josh Fiorini got offers from about 40 different states, many of them with similar terms and incentives. But South Carolina won out, thanks to the state's relentless efforts to woo the company and its personal touch. It started when a state representative and the wife of a congressman hopped on a plane to Connecticut immediately after Fiorini let it be known he was ready to leave his home state because it passed stricter gun laws. It ended with a rally last week that brought in hundreds of people, many wearing T-shirts and hats supporting gun rights, thanking him for moving to Aynor, which is about 30 miles northwest of Myrtle Beach.

News and Observer: Dome: Congressional delegation split over offshore drilling

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2013/06/30/3000467/dome-congressional-delegation.html>

North Carolina's congressional delegation is largely split along partisan lines on a bill that would open up the North Carolina coast to offshore drilling. The House passed The Offshore Energy and Jobs Act by a 235-186 on Friday and it will now go to the Senate. All the state's Republicans as well as Democrat Mike McIntyre voted for the bill. All four Democrats voted against it. The measure was supported by Republican Govs. Pat McCrory of North Carolina, Bob McDonnell of Virginia and Nikki Haley of South Carolina.

WMBF: 33 troopers graduate from Highway Patrol Basic Class 92

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/22727026/33-troopers-graduate-from-highway-patrol-basic-class-92>

The South Carolina Highway Patrol announced the graduation of 33 troopers from Highway Patrol Basic Class 92 on Friday. Basic 92 brings the total number of troopers in South Carolina to 762. Training started in January, and the troopers have been trained by the Highway Patrol and Criminal Justice Academy over the past 21 weeks in all areas of law enforcement, including DUI detection, traffic laws, collision investigation and the use of firearms as well as three weeks of field training.

Note: Governor Nikki Haley spoke to the graduates about the sacrifices of law enforcement and the importance of character as they go out to represent their communities around the state. "You have proven yourself to be able to wear this uniform, but now there is something else you have to prove," Governor Haley told the graduates. "You have brothers and sisters who have come before you and wearing that badge means something. So when you are out in the community, you have a responsibility. When you are not in uniform they still expect you to have the same integrity, the same demeanor as when you are wearing a uniform." Gov. Haley has spoken at the last four Highway Patrol graduation ceremonies.

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South Carolina News

The State: A video poker revival in South Carolina?

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/07/01/2843002/a-video-poker-revival-in-south.html>

NOELLE PHILLIPS

Last winter as the Legislature took its first steps to outlaw Internet sweepstakes games, an experienced lawyer with the S.C. Attorney General's office warned lawmakers that video poker barons always have another card up their sleeves. Just months after that warning, a bill filed late during the legislative session has some worried the next card may have been played.

Post and Courier: The Voting Rights Act has changed, now what?

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130630/PC16/130639974/1006/the-voting-rights-act-has-changed-now-what>

Robert Behre

Tuesday's landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling setting aside part of the 1965 Voting Rights Act has drawn two kinds of reactions. Many Republicans applaud the ruling, calling it a boon for states' rights and a recognition that in this era of a black president and a black U.S. senator from South Carolina, race is no longer the divisive political force it once was.

The Item: Stepped up enforcement on SC roadways planned

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/06/29/2841213/stepped-up-enforcement-on-sc-roadways.html>

BRISTOW MARCHANT

Halfway through the "100 Deadly Days of Summer," officers are optimistic about road safety in South Carolina. So far this year, the state has seen a decline in the number of traffic fatalities on its roadways. In 2013 to date, 330 people have died in traffic accidents statewide, down from 406 at this time last year. If law enforcement can maintain that rate through the end of the year, they hope to significantly reduce the fatality rate of 865 in 2012.

Associated Press: Adoption case returns to SC from US Supreme Court

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=35MQQyjo

The U.S. Supreme Court is pushing South Carolina courts to quickly take up a custody case that will decide whether a Native American girl's life will be with her biological father in Oklahoma or the South Carolina couple who adopted her. A divided U.S. Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that federal law doesn't require that the girl named Veronica stay with her biological father, but also doesn't give her adoptive parents immediate custody of the now 3-year-old child.

Post and Courier: Charter schools' steady gains (Opinion)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130701/PC1002/130709979/1021/charter-schools-x2019-steady-gains>

Editorial

Charter schools have been roundly criticized as unnecessary, inadequate and harmful to traditional public schools. They've been feared as a potential back door to racial segregation. But a new study by the Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO) at Stanford University found that not only are charter schools making slow but steady progress across the board, they are of particular benefit to low-income, disadvantaged and special-education students.

Post and Courier: Welcome widening for Folly's beach

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130701/PC1002/130709978/1021/welcome-widening-for-folly-x2019-s-beach&source=RSS>

A deal is a deal, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has agreed to hold up its end by ponying up \$20 million for the renourishment of Folly Beach. The Corps did the right thing, and prodding by Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., and Rep. James Clyburn, D-S.C., didn't hurt.

Greenville News: Gowdy to Senate: Security a priority for immigration reform

Says Senate version won't fly in S.C.

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130701/NEWS/307010070/Gowdy-Senate-Security-priority-immigration-reform>

Clark Brooks

The landmark Senate immigration bill that Lindsey Graham helped write won't pass in the House of Representatives, and it won't fly in South Carolina, 4th District Congressman Trey Gowdy said Sunday. Speaker John Boehner has been clear that the Republican-controlled House has no plans to put the Senate bill to a vote, and is working instead on a series of bills to address the issues one at a time.

Politico: GOP could pay price for gerrymandering

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/07/gop-could-pay-price-for-gerrymandering-93597.html>

ALEX ISENSTADT

No one disputes Republicans used the once-a-decade redistricting process to lock in their House majority — almost certainly through 2014 and possibly until the next round of line-drawing in 2020. But the party could

pay a steep price for that dominance.

Greenville News: Mosquito-borne virus confirmed in dead S.C. horse

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130701/NEWS/307010077/Mosquito-borne-virus-confirmed-dead-S-C-horse>

Anna Lee

A deadly mosquito-borne virus found in horses has struck a farm in Sumter County, marking the state's first confirmed case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis this year. Dr. Boyd Parr, director of Clemson University's Livestock Poultry Health program, said a foal recently tested positive for the disease, which is transmitted by the blacktailed mosquito, or *Culiseta melanura*. Two adult horses that died on the same farm are also suspected of having EEE.

Post and Courier: Not every family has a steady source of food, especially not in the South

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130629/PC1610/130629267/1356/not-every-family-has-a-steady-source-of-food-especially-not-in-the-south>

Nicholas Watson

Everything tends to be bigger in the South — including food insecurity. According to data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service, the six states with the highest food insecurity are in the South, holding significantly higher rates compared with national averages.

Associated Press: July 4th fireworks scrapped at a number of bases

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=P0atMevr

JENNIFER C. KERR

The Fourth of July won't have a patriotic boom in the sky over some military bases because budget cuts and furloughed workers also mean furloughed fireworks. Independence Day celebrations have been canceled at the Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base and at the Army's Fort Bragg, both in North Carolina. The annual July Fourth celebration also has been scrapped at the Marine Corps Logistics Base in Albany, Ga.

Post and Courier: Competition a winner for S.C. cable customers

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130701/PC1002/130709976/1021/competition-a-winner-for-sc-cable-customers>

CALVIN BLACKWELL

Modern economics and history teach us that competition can be a powerful tool in spurring economic growth. In the computer industry, for example, spirited and at times cutthroat competition has led to faster and better computers being introduced year after year. These improved machines benefit businesses and consumers in ways that have sparked economic growth and transformed lives in South Carolina and throughout the nation.

Associated Press: Part of US 76 near Laurens to close for 6 weeks

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

Part of U.S. Highway 76 in Laurens County is closing for more than a month for emergency repairs. The South Carolina Department of Transportation will close about a half-mile of the road west of Laurens starting Monday.

Post and Courier: Medical University Hospital's financial situation improves some, but it still aims to cut costs

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130630/PC16/130709988/1177/medical-university-hospital-x2019-s-financial-situation-improves-some-but-it-still-aims-to-cut-costs>

Lauren Sausser

The Medical University Hospital Authority is in better shape financially than it was six months ago, when it had less than \$30 million to cover expenses, but administrators say they are still exploring cost-cutting measures to improve their bottom line, including adjusting some employees' hours. The \$30 million balance in early January wasn't even enough to operate for 10 days, because it costs about \$3 million to run the hospital each day, and \$13 million to meet its biweekly payroll. A recent cash projection report shows the hospital now has about \$50 million in the bank, which would cover less than three weeks worth of operating expenses.

Hyperlocal News

Post and Courier: Has being the best made Charleston one of the country's snobbiest cities?

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130701/PC16/130709970/1177/has-being-the-best-made-charleston-one-of-the-country-x2019-s-snobbiest-cities>

Andy Paras

Has being the best travel destination on the planet gone to our heads? Has having the best restaurants, beaches and shopping turned us into snobs? Yes, according to the folks at Travel + Leisure who, only two years after raving about our hospitality and three years after naming us the friendliest city, has now named us the 10th snobbiest city in America.

Associated Press: 1st mortgage paid on Orangeburg Habitat home

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=R2NJvjIh

DALE LINDER-ALTMAN

Making the final mortgage payment on her home was a milestone she'd been reaching toward for 22 years, Stephanie Carson said. "I was very excited," she said. "It was hard to find words to describe how it felt." In April, Carson became the first Edisto Habitat for Humanity homeowner to pay off the mortgage. She moved into the house in 1991, and takes great pride in maintaining and improving it.

Post and Courier: Prime-time TV newcomer "Reckless" to set up shop in Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130630/PC16/130639979/1006/prime-time-tv-newcomer-x201c-reckless-x201d-to-set-up-shop-in-charleston>

Prentiss Findlay

A passel of prime-time actors will arrive in Charleston this summer for an extended stay when CBS cranks up production of "Reckless," a steamy legal drama being filmed here. The show is slated for a mid-season premiere, which means it will debut sometime between November and April.

The Sun News: 2 small tornados confirmed near Myrtle Beach

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/07/01/2843264/2-small-tornados-confirmed-near.html>

Maya T. Prabhu

National Weather Service meteorologists confirmed Sunday that two small tornadoes touched down in the Socastee area Saturday. A team from Wilmington visited Socastee Sunday morning to assess the damage and found that a tornado with winds of up to 60 mph touched down in the Cameron Village neighborhood with a path length of one-tenth of a mile and 35 yards wide, according to science and operation officer Reid Hawking with NWS.

Greenville News: July brings more storms, flooding to Upstate

Rain comes on heels of 8th wettest June on record

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130701/NEWS/307010075/July-brings-more-storms-flooding-Upstate>

Anna Lee

July is expected to begin with a rainy week in the Upstate, after one of the wettest Junes on record. Showers and thunderstorms could bring localized flooding, especially in areas along the Reedy River, said Scott Krentz, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Greer.

The State: Columbia preservationists frustrated City Hall moving so fast on Bull Street

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/06/30/2842965/columbia-preservationists-frustrated.html>

DAWN HINSHAW

As the city of Columbia prepares for construction of a long-anticipated downtown neighborhood along Bull Street, civic leaders must decide whether its story should remain rooted in the past or represent a contemporary Columbia. Preservation advocates say the 181-acre campus tells the story of a South Carolina that was in the nation's forefront in the 1820s when it began to provide mental-health services to citizens. Among the 55 buildings inside the institution's brick walls are hospital wards, a chapel, mattress factory, bakery and laundry building – even a tract used as a Civil War prisoner-of-war camp that archaeologists long have wanted to explore.

National News

Associated Press: Fast-moving Arizona wildfire kills 19 firefighters

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/06/30/2842414/fire-in-arizona-prompts-evacuation.html>

JOHN MARSHALL and JACQUES BILLEAUD

Gusty, hot winds blew an Arizona blaze out of control Sunday in a forest northwest of Phoenix, overtaking and killing 19 members of an elite fire crew in the deadliest wildfire involving firefighters in the U.S. for at least 30 years. The "hotshot" firefighters were forced to deploy their emergency fire shelters - tent-like structures meant to shield firefighters from flames and heat - when they were caught near the central Arizona town of Yarnell, state forestry spokesman Art Morrison told The Associated Press.

Tribune Media Services: No standard (Opinion)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/07/01/2839419/thomas-no-standard.html>

Cal Thomas

The problem for people who believe in an Authority higher even than the Constitution is that in our increasingly secular and indifferent society, it has become more difficult to persuade those who do not subscribe to an immutable standard to accept that view. It is nearly impossible to restrain a people intent on throwing off any and all restraints. History is full of examples of empires that collapsed from within before they were conquered from without. The Supreme Court has narrowly, but effectively, removed another standard on the way to full acceptance of its right to redefine marriage and raise itself to a level higher than the Creator. What or who is to stop it? Various religious-political groups formed over many years to confront cultural erosion are in retreat and increasingly ineffective.

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Jeff Taillon

(803) 734-5129|Direct Line

(803) 767-7653|Cell