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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Aiken Standard: 'Emma's Law' seeks to curb drunk driving deaths

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140420/AIK0102/140419303/1004/-emma-s-law-seeks-to-curb-drunk-driving-deaths>

Teddy Kulmala

A bill signed into law last week by S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley seeks to put the brakes on drunken driving. S137, also known as "Emma's Law," would require more people convicted of DUI to have a device installed in their vehicles that won't allow the vehicle to start if the driver has been drinking.

Post and Courier: S.C. Attorney General Alan Wilson's campaign finance issues reflect ethics laws' deeper problems

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140420/PC1603/140429954/1031/sc-attorney-general-alan-wilsons-campaign-finance-issues-reflect-ethics-laws-deeper-problems>

Jeremy Borden

Recent questions over campaign donations to South Carolina's top prosecutor expose some fundamental problems with the state's ethics laws and how they are enforced, officials and critics say.

Note: The scrutiny comes as Gov. Nikki Haley and other top lawmakers --- including the attorney general - pursue statewide ethics reform.

The State: LOL or OMG? Haley-Shealy Facebook spat

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/19/3397527/the-buzz-lol-or-omg-haley-shealy.html#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self

State Sen. Katrina Shealy says her heart – not any political allegiance to Republican Gov. Nikki Haley – is guiding her role as a member of a Senate panel tasked with investigating claims the state's child welfare agency has missed abuse cases that led to child deaths.

S.C. Political News:

Greenville News: Day care comment spurs debate

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2014/04/19/day-care-comment-spurs-debate/7923217/>

Tim Smith

Following the death of a 3-month-old in what authorities described as an overcrowded Greenville residential day care, the director of the state's social services agency suggested the child might still be alive if neighbors had paid more attention to what was going on next door.

The State: Koch-backed S.C. battles ahead

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/19/3397535/the-buzz-koch-backed-sc-battles.html>

Jamie Self

A Koch brothers-backed political group and a foundation with the same name officially have taken root in South Carolina. Tax reform and school choice are Americans for Prosperity's top two priorities, said Dave Schwartz, S.C. state director for the group and its foundation.

The State: Just a little crossover voting

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/19/3397534/the-buzz-just-a-little-crossover.html>

Jamie Self

Charleston public relations executive Nancy Mace told The Buzz that she did not vote in a June 2006 Democratic primary in Georgia, when she was registered to vote in that state, from 2006-10. But the Republican U.S. Senate hopeful did take a ballot in the Democratic race, according to her Georgia voting

records, which The Buzz obtained through an open records request.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Spartanburg Herald Journal: State Supreme Court reminds governor she can't eliminate law with veto
<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140420/OPINION/404201009/0/APJ?Title=State-Supreme-Court-reminds-governor-she-can-8217-t-eliminate-law-with-veto>

Editorial

The S.C. Supreme Court sent Gov. Nikki Haley a needed reminder last week that she can't make changes to established state law with a simple swipe of her veto pen. Last year, as part of her line-item vetoes in the state budget, the governor vetoed the \$2 million the state Department of Health and Environmental Control used to fund its Certificate of Need Program.

Post and Courier: Nikki Haley will have the last LOL

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140420/PC16/140429949/1177/nikki-haley-will-have-the-last-lol>

Brian Hicks

If they ever make a Nikki Haley action figure, it has to come with a little laptop. That is, by far, the governor's most effective weapon. Last week, Haley was miffed that state senators were beating up on her Department of Social Services director, the disappearing Lillian Koller.

The State: SC water withdrawal law should better balance farms, larger society

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/19/3395547/editorial-sc-water-withdrawal.html#storylink=cpy>

Editorial

WE LONG have treated farmers differently than other manufacturers, based on the vital role they play in our life. That has not changed, and we can't foresee it ever changing. But farming sometimes gets an extra layer of special treatment based on romantic notions about family farmers.

Post and Courier: Offshore drilling's dangers

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140420/PC1002/140429936/1021/offshore-drillings-dangers>

Editorial

Four years ago today, an explosion on the Deepwater Horizon oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico killed 11 workers and unleashed an underwater geyser of oil that took 87 days to contain. The oil harmed ocean fisheries and contaminated beaches along the Gulf Coast.

Times and Democrat: Industry plays vital role now and into future

http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/industry-plays-vital-role-now-and-into-future/article_216b6f3c-c847-11e3-adde-0019bb2963f4.html

Editorial

THE ISSUE: Industry appreciation; OUR OPINION: The success of existing companies is the best recruiting story for T&D Region. South Carolina's "manufacturing renaissance" is real. In the past three years, the state has announced more than \$12 billion in investment and more than 45,000 jobs. More South Carolinians are working today than ever before.

Greenville News: Delay vote on nonpartisan races in the city

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/editorials/2014/04/19/delay-vote-nonpartisan-races-city/7887897/>

Editorial

Sometimes a great idea runs headfirst into a wall of opposition built by reasonable people who voice their objections with restraint and respect. That has happened in the city of Greenville with a perfectly legitimate and totally innocent proposal to drop the need for party affiliation in city races and switch to the nonpartisan elections used in almost every other city in South Carolina.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Post and Courier: An act that changed South Carolina (and its politics)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140420/PC1610/140429955/1177/an-act-that-changed-south-carolina-and-its-politics>

Schuyler Kropf

Decades before being elected a South Carolina congressman, Jim Clyburn remembers being a young

schoolteacher in Charleston and giving lessons on the filibuster that Southern Democrats in the Senate were waging against the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

South Carolina News:

Index Journal: Senate acknowledges childhood obesity as a S. Carolina problem

<http://www.indexjournal.com/Content/News/News/Article/Senate-acknowledges-childhood-obesity-as--a-S--Carolina-problem/4/40/25010>

Kate Hruby

The number of overweight and obese children weighs in at a staggering 39.2 percent among South Carolina's youngest, according to the state Senate and the Center for Disease Control. While a little flub and fat here and there may make for quintessentially cute toddlers and young children, the consequences of childhood obesity are proven to be serious, and lead to health risks later in life, according to the CDC.

Post and Courier: Charleston's African American museum: Will it be built?

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140419/PC16/140419284/1006/will-the-museum-be-built>

Schuyler Kropf

At the end of his four-decade-long career at Charleston's helm, Riley is leading an ambitious undertaking that hinges on events outside of his control, asking the S.C. Legislature to provide \$25 million, or one-third of the museum's total cost.

The State: Two in three in SC favor tax break for private school grant donations, according to poll

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/19/3397798/exclusive-two-in-three-in-sc-favor.html#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self

Support for that type of private school choice program is far greater than what South Carolinians said in an October poll about another kind of school choice, one that gives taxpayer money – in the form of tax credits or vouchers – directly to parents who send their children to private school.

Associated Press: SC towns and counties spur state to ban texting

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

Andrew Coffman Smith

After years of facing fierce opposition, the idea of South Carolina passing a statewide texting-while-driving ban is becoming a real possibility. Earlier this month the state Senate and House passed separate bills aimed at putting to an end to the confusing hodgepodge of local bans.

Local News:

The State: Columbia gives \$2.1M in tax cuts to out-of-state student housing developers

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/19/3397786/columbia-gives-21m-in-tax-cuts.html#storylink=cpy>

Clif LeBlanc

Three resort-style student housing complexes being built in downtown Columbia by out-of-state developers are the first to receive a 50 percent tax break designed to lure student housing projects into the city's core.

National News:

New York Times: Republicans See Political Wedge in Common Core

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/20/us/politics/republicans-see-political-wedge-in-common-core.html?smid=tw-share&_r=0

Jonathan Martin

The health care law may be Republicans' favorite weapon against Democrats this year, but there is another issue roiling their party and shaping the establishment-versus-grass-roots divide ahead of the 2016 presidential primaries: the Common Core.

Associated Press: US weighing military exercises in Eastern Europe

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/us-weighing-military-exercises-eastern-europe>

Lolita C. Baldor

The United States is considering deploying about 150 soldiers for military exercises to begin in Poland and Estonia in the next few weeks, a Western official said Saturday. The exercises would follow Russia's buildup of forces near its border with Ukraine and its annexation last month of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula.

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