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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Boeing, others lobby for Export-Import Bank renewal

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140720/PC05/140729987/1382&source=spreed>

Warren L. Wise

Last year, the federal Export-Import Bank helped Boeing customers finance \$8 billion in commercial jet sales to foreign companies. It aided the much smaller Fort Lawn-based Morrison Textile Machinery Co. with funding for overseas equipment sales to firms in Turkey, Egypt and Bangladesh.

Note: Fifteen Republican governors, including Gov. Nikki Haley, have endorsed the bank's renewal.

Note: "As elected officials from a state where thousands of hardworking families benefit from exports, we urge you to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank before its charter expires this year," wrote Haley, Graham and Scott. "As the official export credit agency of the United States, Ex-Im is a vital export finance tool to the businesses in our state - at no cost to American taxpayers."

Post and Courier: S.C. second worst for number of women in the Legislature

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140720/PC1603/140729953/1031&source=spreed>

Jeremy Borden

While two of the state's most prominent officials are women - Gov. Nikki Haley and Supreme Court Chief Justice Jean Toal - South Carolina ranks second-to-last when it comes to the number of women in the Legislature, according to data released by the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Associated Press: Nonprofit brings attention to 1st American capital

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=WkSohe6G

Seanna Adcox

The English settlement of Jamestown, Virginia, may be dubbed America's birthplace, but North America's first colonial capital was actually established four decades earlier - and 400 miles away - in South Carolina.

Note: Legislators earmarked \$220,000 in the state budget to help do that, easily overriding the veto of Gov. Nikki Haley, who argued private donations should pay the tab. Sen. Tom Davis blasted Haley for not recognizing a decades-old state obligation. "These 500-year-old artifacts are sitting in cardboard boxes and bags and rotting away," said Davis, R-Beaufort. "A private foundation can't go forward until the state has its house in order."

The State: Abolition in SC of high school exit exam opens opportunities

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/19/3573446/abolition-in-sc-of-high-school.html>

Carolyn Click

No matter how hard she tried, Edona Harrison-Williams could not pass the South Carolina high school exit exam.

Note: When she learned in April that Gov. Nikki Haley had signed Act 155, Harrison-Williams called the S.C. Department of Education and then Richland 1, where she was among the first to apply to receive her high school diploma.

The State: Few turn out for immigration protest in Columbia; others planned Saturday around SC

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/19/3572743/few-turn-out-for-immigration-protest.html#storylink=cpy>

Fewer than a dozen people had turned out by lunchtime Saturday at a planned immigration protest in Columbia. The anti-immigration political group Americans for Legal Immigration planned the protest from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on the St. Andrews Road overpass on I-26.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley announced Thursday that none of the youth are being sheltered in S.C. facilities.

Aiken Standard: University Hospital plans Aiken facility

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140720/AIK0101/140719258/0/SEARCH&slid=1>

Mayaan Schechter

James R. Davis, president and CEO of University Health Care System, said the health care system is re-evaluating its plans for the Trolley Run Boulevard site in light of the recent South Carolina Supreme Court ruling on the Certificate of Need law.

Note: The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control administers the certificates despite its recent arguments to the Supreme Court that it cannot do so any longer without the funding vetoed by Gov. Nikki Haley. The justices ruled that the department must continue administering the program, noting that Haley's veto affected only funding, not the existence of a program set out in state law, according to The Associated Press.

Island Packet: Progress toward sale of Port of Port Royal unknown

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/07/19/3218620/state-largely-quiet-on-progress.html?sp=/99/100/&ihp=1>

Erin Moody

Six weeks after Gov. Nikki Haley signed a law intended to expedite the sale of the Port of Port Royal, its current owner, the S.C. State Ports Authority, is not saying much about whether progress is being made. The legislation, which took effect June 3, requires the property to be sold by June 30, 2015. If it is not, it will be auctioned off.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

Anderson Independent: Anderson man leads S.C. Libertarian Party

http://www.independentmail.com/news/anderson-man-leads-sc-libertarian-party_83294305?autoplay=true

Kirk Brown

Michael Carmany is a 61-year-old electrician who raises parrots. The Anderson aviculturist also is chairman of the South Carolina Libertarian Party. Carmany said he knows firsthand that many people have a mistaken impression of Libertarians as "dope-smoking, free-life people."

Note: Libertarian candidate Steve French had \$19,625 in his campaign account as of June 30, according to a report that he filed earlier this month with the State Ethics Commission. In contrast, Republican Gov. Nikki Haley has about \$4.5 million to spend.

Anderson Independent: Campaign notes: Democratic ad criticizes Gov. Haley

http://www.independentmail.com/news/campaign-notes-democratic-ad-criticizes-gov-haley_04522239

Kirk Brown, Nikie Mayo

The Democratic Governors Association is airing a TV ad accusing Republican Gov. Nikki Haley of putting her own political career ahead of children's lives. The 30-second ad features Betsy Burton, a former staff attorney at the South Carolina Department of Social Services.

Note: Rob Godfrey, a spokesman for Haley's campaign, had a less flattering assessment of the ad. "Vince Sheheen's liberal allies in Washington are trying to rescue his flailing campaign, but they're missing the facts," he said. "As a mother, Gov. Haley is intensely concerned about the children under DSS care. The death of even one child is too many and tragic, and Gov. Haley continues to press for reforms of the agency to continue to improve its services."

The Item: Sheheen speaks at Democrat HQ opening

<http://www.theitem.com/stories/sheheen-speaks-at-democrat-hq-opening,228193>

Jade Reynolds

About 70 people came out for the opening of the Sumter County Democrats' new headquarters Saturday. The highlight was when Sen. Vincent Sheheen, D-Camden, stopped in at 577 Bultman Drive.

Note: "Vince Sheheen will say anything to try to win this campaign and distract voters because he knows that once the people of Sumter come to understand his record of negotiating reduced sentences for violent criminals, including drug dealers and child predators, and expanding job-killing policies like Obamacare, they will look elsewhere for leadership," said Chaney Adams, spokeswoman for Gov. Haley.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

The State: Outlaw questionable rebates SC colleges receive from vendor contracts

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/19/3571576/editorial-outlaw-questionable.html>

Editorial

WHAT DO you call it when a public college extends lucrative contracts to vendors with the requirement that

the companies provide large gifts that are funneled to foundations or used to pay for projects unrelated to the agreement?

Post and Courier: Sooner or later, still broke

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140720/PC1002/140729944/1021&source=speed>

Editorial

The Congressional Budget Office forecast Tuesday that Medicare's hospital insurance trust fund won't go broke as soon as previously expected. The agency's revised date of fiscal doom for the massive entitlement program is five years later than the projection issued in February.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Supreme Court allows government to hide public information

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140720/OPINION/407201011/1128/opinion?Title=Supreme-Court-allows-government-to-hide-public-information>

Editorial

The S.C. Supreme Court doesn't think so. It ruled last week that autopsy reports, even when they are prepared at taxpayer expense, are medical records and can be kept private. This misguided ruling is a blow against open government, accountability and an informed public.

The State: Did SC State University use rebates from vendor contracts as a slush fund?

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/20/3571611/bolton-did-sc-state-university.html#storylink=cpy>

Warren Bolton

WHEN FORMER S.C. State University general counsel Ed Givens testified in court that he attempted to get the school's main foundation to pay half of his attorney's fee, I thought it was laughable. Surely he didn't think that was a justifiable expense.

Rock Hill Herald: Our leaders fail to find fix for roads

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/07/20/6156021/our-leaders-fail-to-find-fix-for.html?sp=/100/105/>

Editorial

South Carolina has the most dangerous rural roads in the nation and state lawmakers don't have the collective political will to do anything about it. In a report released last week by TRIP, a national transportation research group, the state's rural roads had a fatality rate of 3.99 per 100 million miles of vehicle travel.

Times and Democrat: 'Transparency' should be more than buzz word

http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/transparency-should-be-more-than-buzz-word/article_373eaa1a-0fbc-11e4-8fae-001a4bcf887a.html

Editorial

THE ISSUE: S.C. State foundations; OUR OPINION: University must go beyond letter of law in establishing opinions. Government officials throw around the word "transparency" while being party to practices that do anything but let the public know how vital business is being conducted and taxpayer money is being used.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Greenville News: Scott undecided on nominee to lead VA

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/07/19/scott-undecided-nominee-lead-va/12897793/>

David Dykes

U.S. Sen. Tim Scott said he hasn't decided if he will support former corporate executive Robert McDonald's nomination as secretary of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. McDonald is a former Army Ranger who was forced out as CEO of consumer products giant Procter & Gamble last year.

Anderson Independent: Wait times among issues being studied at Upstate VA clinics

http://www.independentmail.com/news/wait-times-among-issues-being-studied-at-upstate-va-clinics_45586445

Nikie Mayo

Wait times among issues being studied at Upstate VA clinics. Dean Gillespie says he expects to wait 11 months before he sees a doctor at the Greenville outpatient clinic for veterans. He keeps an appointment card that indicates as much. Sen. Scott said he reached out to South Carolina's VA facilities directly because he felt his questions about health care and wait times "met resistance" at the federal level.

Associated Press: Clyburn to La. students: Learn to lose gracefully

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

A top Democratic congressman is telling young people in Louisiana that they should pursue their dreams but also learn to lose gracefully if they want long-term success. U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn of South Carolina spoke Friday to about 200 students and parents at a Louisiana Leadership Institute Event in Baton Rouge.

Post and Courier: Mark Sanford supports opening up banking for the marijuana states

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140720/PC1603/140729957/1031&source=spreed>

Jeremy Borden

U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford last week supported two congressional amendments that would allow pot sellers in states with legalized recreational marijuana to gain full access to the federal banking system.

Democrats short on cash in Senate race: Federal campaign disclosure reports last week indicated the two Democrats running for U.S. Senate are far behind when it comes to raising campaign cash.

No Flowers for T-Rav: Former Mount Pleasant Mayor Cheryl Woods-Flowers got a peek into how Thomas Ravenel collected the thousands of signatures he needed to get on the U.S. Senate ballot as an independent this fall versus Lindsey Graham.

South Carolina - Not the most corrupt state: New research into corruption in America says South Carolina is not among the "crookedest" states in the nation.

S.C. Legislative News:

The State: New SC Senate leader plans to keep board members in their posts

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/19/3573321/new-sc-senate-leader-plans-to.html#storylink=cpy>

Cassie Cope

State Senate leader Hugh Leatherman says he does not believe in change for change's sake. So when the terms of about 10 board and commission members, appointed by the Senate president pro tempore, expire by year's end, Leatherman says he is likely to reappoint them — if they have done a good job.

Greenville News: Lawmakers approving fewer bills

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/07/19/south-carolina-legislature-passing-fewer-bills/12897177/>

Tim Smith

When the Senate failed to take up a bill this year to provide funding for the state's crumbling roads, some senators said it was because the Senate just ran out of time. Even with a month, they said, it wasn't enough time to debate such a bill and take up other necessary items.

South Carolina News:

Rock Hill Herald: Training at Chester tire plant may be similar to Sumter facility's

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/07/19/6155654/high-tech-and-tires-technical.html#storylink=cpy>

Don Worthington

Anxiousness turned to euphoria Oct. 6, 2011, when Continental Tire announced a new \$500 million tire plant with more than 1,600 employees was coming to Sumter. Eight months of recruitment and several years of preparation — and a final couple weeks of nail-biting — paid off for Sumter.

The State: The Buzz: The return of secret government?

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/19/3573304/the-buzz-the-return-of-secret.html>

Jamie Self

The aim of a new policy allowing only the S.C. State Ethics Commission's director — and not its attorney — to talk to reporters "is not to squash openness at all or to not be transparent," that agency's chairman James Burns tried to assure reporters Wednesday.

Activist gains seat on S.C. ed board: Abstinence activist and Common Core opponent Sheri Few failed in her campaign to become the state's next superintendent of education, finishing third in June's Republican primary.

'Wanted to come back home': Glenn McConnell was not the only fixture in state government lost when the Charleston Republican resigned in June as lieutenant governor to become the College of Charleston's next president.

Local News:

Post and Courier: Charleston stop-and-frisk policy opens door for profiling, critics say after Denzel Curnell death

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140719/PC16/140719278/1177&source=spreed>

Andrew Knapp

After a string of five slayings in 2010, Charleston's police chief spoke publicly about a patrolling effort to tackle the violent surge. It was called "stop and frisk." A new field guide laid out the factors that officers could look for as hints of criminal activity and reasons to stop someone.

The State: Village at River's Edge: Unfinished site built with \$12 million in tax dollars; first plagued by violent crime, then white-collar crime

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/19/3573300/village-at-rivers-edge-unfinished.html#storylink=cpy>

Clif LeBlanc, John Monk

A recent public corruption trial demonstrated the depth of misconduct by some of its developers and shed new light on Mayor Steve Benjamin's involvement in the 28-acre site, tucked into rolling hills in north Columbia overlooking the Broad River.

Times and Democrat: Jafza goals shifted over the years

http://thetandd.com/business/jafza-goals-shifted-over-the-years/article_991f4c7a-0fc7-11e4-9556-0019bb2963f4.html

Gene Zaleski

It's been seven years since Jafza International said it was considering Orangeburg County for a \$600-700 million logistics, manufacturing and distribution center. Since then, the company has invested an estimated \$20 million into the 1,322-acre site at the intersection of U.S. Highway 301 and Interstate 95 in Santee.

Greenville News: Old communication system putting lives at risk

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2014/07/19/antiquated-communication-system-putting-lives-greenville-county-citizens-first-responders-risk/12897499/>

Ron Barnett

The city fire department and the Sheriff's Office have dispatchers inside the same building, but officers of the two agencies can't communicate on emergency channels, and most of the 14 county fire departments can't communicate with each other.

Associated Press: Clemson trustees won't vote on tobacco ban

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=M9ZexdDG

The chairman of Clemson University's board of trustees says the panel won't vote on a plan to ban tobacco use anywhere on campus. The State newspaper reported (<http://bit.ly/1yHig1p>) Chairman David Wilkins says the administration, not the board, will handle the plan.

National News:

Associated Press: For Obama, Foreign Crises Grow More Challenging

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_OBAMA_FOREIGN_POLICY?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-07-19-12-08-31

Julie Pace

Surveying a dizzying array of international crises, President Barack Obama stated the obvious: "We live in a complex world and at a challenging time." And then suddenly, only a day later, the world had grown much more troubling, the challenges even more confounding.

Washington Post: Obama aides were warned of brewing border crisis

http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/obama-aides-were-warned-of-brewing-border-crisis/2014/07/19/8b5d2282-0d1b-11e4-b8e5-d0de80767fc2_story.html

David Nakamura

Nearly a year before President Obama declared a humanitarian crisis on the border, a team of experts arrived at the Fort Brown patrol station in Brownsville, Tex., and discovered a makeshift transportation depot for a deluge of foreign children.

Brian Symmes

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