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Governor Nikki Haley News

The State: SC Governor Tells SC State Trustees To Settle Differences

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=3SaeAONT

Andy Shain

Gov. Nikki Haley urged S.C. State University trustees Friday to build trust and accountability at the beleaguered college, struggling to overcome a \$6 million budget deficit, falling enrollment and a fraud scandal. Taking the unusual step of calling together a college board to hear its concerns directly, Haley said the state's only public historically black university needs to share a game plan soon with the public.

Note: "You can't keep going the way you have been going," Haley, an ex-officio member of the Orangeburg university's board, said during a meeting on the State House grounds... Haley told the trustees that she thinks they have a passion to help S.C. State. "But, at some point, you have to just put (differences) aside," she said. "If there was ever a time for you all to step up, it's now. And I've got you back, but you have to make some hard decisions."

Times And Democrat: Gov. says she'll help trustees work together for S.C. State

http://thetandd.com/news/local/gov-says-she-ll-help-trustees-work-together-for-s/article_ee63be32-9386-11e2-b929-001a4bcf887a.html

Dale Linder-Altman

South Carolina State University trustees met with Gov. Nikki Haley on Friday for a conversation about the university's problems and how they can work together to solve them. There's been a lot of drama at S.C. State, but that's happened at other schools, Haley said. "The reason I'm meeting with you is because this is kind of a continuing thing," at S.C. State, she said. "That makes me concerned."

CNN: O'Malley takes aim at Haley in South Carolina

<http://politicalticker.blogs.cnn.com/2013/03/23/first-on-cnn-omalley-takes-aim-at-haley-in-south-carolina/>

Peter Hamby

Democratic Gov. Martin O'Malley of Maryland will unleash a blistering critique of his Republican counterpart in South Carolina, Nikki Haley, in remarks to a Democratic party conference in Charleston on Saturday. O'Malley plans to attack Haley, who is up for re-election next year, as "tea party Republican" who cares more about voter ID laws than expanding health care access and education for South Carolinians, according to early excerpts of his speech provided to CNN.

Note: Asked about O'Malley's salvo, Haley adviser Tim Pearson said the state's unemployment rate has dropped two points since Haley took office in 2010. "He should go back to Maryland where he quite successfully legalized gambling, gay marriage, the end of the death penalty, and hiked taxes on everyone and everything he could think of," Pearson said of O'Malley. "And you can quote me on the record with all of that."

Associated Press: Haley seeks disaster declaration for Horry County

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=SNM6B1LL

Gov. Nikki Haley is asking the U.S. Small Business Administration to declare Horry County a disaster area following last weekend's fire that destroyed more than 100 homes near Myrtle Beach.

Note: Haley asked the agency in a letter Friday to implement its disaster loan program. The letter provided to the Associated Press says Haley won't seek help from the Federal Emergency Management Agency because the fire didn't meet its assistance thresholds.

Washington Post: The Fix's top 15 gubernatorial races

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/the-fix/wp/2013/03/22/the-fixs-top-15-gubernatorial-races/>

Chris Cillizza

9. South Carolina (R): The good news for Gov. Nikki Haley (R) is that she looks stronger in a potential primary, with a recent Winthrop University poll putting her approval among Republicans and GOP-leaning independents at 67 percent. Among all the state's voters, she had an approval of 44 percent and a disapproval of 39 percent – slightly better than the last Winthrop poll in December but still vulnerable. (Previous ranking: 9)

Times And Democrat: Simplifying process of getting permits good for business

http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/editorial/simplifying-process-of-getting-permits-good-for-business/article_1e2bf6ee-9372-11e2-87ca-001a4bcf887a.html

Editorial

THE ISSUE: Permit Central; OUR OPINION: Health agency has obligation to help business as it protects people. During Industry Appreciation Week, the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control took steps to assist new and existing businesses by simplifying the permitting process. "Government needs to run like a business, and that is exactly what we've done today," said DHEC Director Catherine Templeton on Thursday. "We talked to our customers and created a way to help. Permit Central enables us to work proactively with the private citizens and business owners who need permits.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley is promotional with her words, but correct: "Anyone who has ever run or owned a small business knows just how hard it can be and today South Carolina has taken steps to help reduce this burden. It's a great day in South Carolina when we can save our businesses time because time is money."

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South Carolina News

Island Packet: Sanford gets endorsement from third former rival

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/03/22/2431969/sanford-gets-endorsement-from.html>

Former 1st Congressional candidate and Goose Creek engineer Jeff King, today endorsed Mark Sanford in the 1st district runoff, joining a growing number of former candidates signing on to help Sanford.

Associated Press: Biden to Michigan, SC for major Dem fundraisers

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

Josh Lederman

Vice President Joe Biden will headline major Democratic fundraisers in South Carolina and Michigan, two states that could play a major role in the 2016 presidential election. That's according to two people briefed on the fundraisers, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the trips haven't been publicly announced.

The State: SC Attorney General Discovers \$134,000 In Unreported Contributions, Expenses

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

Andy Shain

S.C. Attorney General Alan Wilson filed amended campaign disclosures Friday after an independent accountant found his campaign had failed to report 68 donations worth nearly \$66,890. The campaign also said it discovered unreported payments totaling \$66,797 to 16 vendors – much of which went to a pair of firms that handled television production and consulting.

Greenville News: Alan Wilson's campaign blames 'clerical errors' for disclosure failures

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130323/NEWS/303220073/Alan-Wilson-s-campaign-blames-clerical-errors-disclosure-failures>

Tim Smith

The campaign of State Attorney General Alan Wilson inadvertently left off dozens of contributions and expenses totaling more than \$134,000 from campaign disclosure reports because of "clerical errors," its officials now say. The errors were discovered as the result of Wilson's decision last month to return campaign contributions tied to House Speaker Bobby Harrell after Wilson asked the State Law Enforcement Division to look into allegations of ethics violations by Harrell, which Harrell has denied. Wilson discovered then that one of the donations had not been disclosed on campaign reports.

Associated Press: Wilson's campaign left \$134K off previous filings

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=5oTBzy6F

Seanna Adcox

South Carolina's top prosecutor amended his campaign filings Friday to account for \$134,000 in donations

and expenses previously unreported on disclosures surrounding his 2010 election win. Attorney General Alan Wilson's campaign chairman attributed the 68 donations and 16 payments to human error.

Associated Press: Recount confirms Sanford-Bostic runoff

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

Bruce Smith

The votes were recounted Friday in South Carolina's 1st Congressional District and the numbers confirm that former Gov. Mark Sanford will face former Charleston County Councilman Curtis Bostic in a GOP runoff. The recount was needed because Bostic outdistanced state Sen. Larry Grooms for second by just under 500 votes in Tuesday's voting for the vacant seat in the district along the state's south coast.

Associated Press: Investigators scold Boeing over 787 comments

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Wc0Ka7O3

Joshua Freed

It appears that Boeing's comments about the smoldering batteries on its 787 have annoyed the National Transportation Safety Board. Boeing gave its own account of two battery incidents, which include a fire, at a detailed press briefing in Tokyo last week. The problem is that the NTSB is still investigating the incidents.

Post And Courier: BALOG COLUMN: Pay attention when Mullen talks guns

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=1yCxQEJS

Melanie Balog

Charleston Police Chief Greg Mullen is not pleased. Despite the state Legislature's apparent enthusiasm for doing away with concealed-weapons permits, Mullen says, "I think it's a bad idea." This isn't a surprise. Mullen attended a public hearing last month in North Charleston for a different bill that would allow concealed-weapons permit holders to bring their weapons into businesses, including those that serve alcohol, as long as there's no sign forbidding it.

Post And Courier: Charleston beaches proposed as loggerhead turtle critical habitat

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=q8FSqJWc

All of Folly Beach and Kiawah Island - among 41 miles of beaches in Charleston County - would be made critical habitat for the threatened loggerhead sea turtle under a proposal made Friday by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Associated Press: 5 people seeking top job at SC unemployment agency

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=wbbG5P57

Five people want to be the next leader of South Carolina's embattled unemployment agency. A Senate committee provided the names of those who met Friday's noon deadline for filing their intent to seek the top job at the Department of Employment and Workforce.

Post And Courier: Charleston transportation firm looks to mesh academia with S.C.'s logistics needs

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

The all-day event was intended to kick-start collaboration between academia and companies to help develop a strategy to meet the needs of businesses that rely on the efficient, rapid movement of goods in the state. The summit included officials from heavyweights such as BMW and Boeing Co., as well as from smaller firms like locally based trucking company Bulldog Hiway Express.

Associated Press: Md. Gov. O'Malley to speak at SC Democrat meeting

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=wUDx1oqR

Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley is coming to South Carolina to speak at a gathering of the state's Democrats. O'Malley is slated to be the keynote speaker at the Issues Conference that's taking place Saturday in Charleston.

The State: EXCLUSIVE : Will SC Force Richland Co. To Buy Voting Machines?

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0H5aOXKC

Dawn Hinshaw

Two Richland County legislators want to require the county to spend up to \$140,000 on new voting machines, using money the state provides to cover a host of state-mandated services. The House budget proviso, inserted by Reps. Nathan Ballentine and Kirkman Finlay, would be a drop in the bucket from the county's expected \$14.6 million in state revenues next year.

The State: SC Supreme Court Rules For Richland County On Penny Tax

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=c06ACbAd

Dawn Hinshaw

A unanimous state Supreme Court has denied an anti-tax group's protest of Richland County's results of the Nov. 6 penny sales-tax referendum, paving the way for improvements to the bus system starting June 1.

Associated Press: 740 miles of US coast critical loggerhead habitat

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=CXgBVZ9c

Bruce Smith

A federal agency is designating 740 miles of beaches from North Carolina to Mississippi as critical habitat for loggerhead sea turtles, including 175 miles in the Carolinas.

Post And Courier: Five Clemson football players springing ahead

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=5GpsMcUF

Clemson is on spring break this week, a respite for a football team that has completed a third of its spring practice sessions. The annual spring game, set for April 14 at Memorial Stadium, is still weeks away, but some players are already seeing their stock rise this spring: - QB Cole Stoudt

Associated Press: South Carolina jail fugitive caught in Los Angeles

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=LPvAii2R

An inmate who walked out of a South Carolina jail more than a year ago has been captured in California. The U.S. Marshal Service arrested Charles Dewayne Ransom in Los Angeles on Wednesday.

Associated Press: SC Agriculture Department to host barbecue contest

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

People with a skill at their grill have a chance to show off. The South Carolina Department of Agriculture's Smokin' at the Market Commissioners Cup BBQ Cook Off kicks off Friday at the State Farmers Market in West Columbia.

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Local News

Anderson Independent-Mail: Powdersville residents surveyed at Waters' town hall meeting

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/mar/22/powdersville-residents-surveyed-at-waters-town/>

Wayne Morton

Road repairs and better emergency medical services coverage topped a survey of Powdersville residents recently at a public meeting conducted by Anderson County Council District 6 council member Ken Waters.

Aiken Standard: Summit looks to replenish manufacturing workforce

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130323/AIK0101/130329887/1004/summit-looks-to-replenish-manufacturing-workforce>

Rob Novit

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of periodic articles related to efforts to produce new skilled workers to manufacturing jobs. Manufacturing employees throughout Aiken County are getting older, and hundreds are expected to retire in the next five years and beyond. Yet the workforce that would take their place is nowhere close in numbers to do so – an issue that continues to alarm economic development personnel, industry leaders, Aiken County officials and educators at a time when manufacturing is experiencing a resurgence.

Post And Courier: Charleston County looking at giving \$1,000 to each employee

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=9skFfW0s

Charleston County Council is poised to give most of its employees checks for \$1,000 each next week in a one-time cost-of-living adjustment meant to offset the current tough economy. The announcement of the payout came during this week's Finance Committee meeting and carries a price tag of about \$2.5 million.

Post And Courier: One person found dead after fire on Folly Beach

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=2Uq5enJF

What's left of the walls along the back of a once coral-colored apartment with a view of the marsh on Folly

Beach is now charred and black. The back porch remains intact, but a gaping hole on the side wall of the 81 Center St. apartment exposes the damage from a blaze early Friday that left one person dead. - Authorities identified the dead man as 43-year-old Thomas Thiel, who a neighbor said lived in the building. Thiel died from smoke inhalation, Charleston County Deputy Coroner Brittney Martin said.

The State: 3 File For Richland 1 School Board

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=OEWwaC9v

Three candidates filed to run for the Richland 1 school board Friday, the first day to sign up.

The State: Lexington Co. Names New Magistrate

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Sf83n9oK

Former Springdale police chief Matt Johnson is Lexington County's newest magistrate.

The State: Apparent Murder-suicide Probed In NE Richland Co.

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=tRi4zJmV

R. Darren Price

Deputies are investigating an apparent murder-suicide Friday morning in the Brookhaven neighborhood in Northeast Richland. Officers responded to a shots-fired call on Coralbean Way about 9 a.m., Richland County Sheriff's Department spokesman Curtis Wilson said. When they arrived, they found the bodies of a married couple outside a home on the street, each with gunshot wounds.

The State: 2 More Richland County Jail Employees Arrested In Beating Investigation

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=GcS7BTTU

Kelly Davis

Two more individuals face charges in connection with the severe beating of a 52-year-old homeless man at the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center. Todd Andrew Hollins, 51, and Olympia Latoya Tuten, 36, are being charged by the Richland County Sheriff's Department with obstruction of justice because, investigators say, they lied during interviews related to the investigation.

The State: Search Underway In Lex. Co. For Man Who Tried To Pick Up 9-year-old Walking Home From School Bus Stop

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=TIwV2hw0

Rachel Lowe

For the third time in three weeks, a Midlands area girl walking home from her school bus stop has been approached by a stranger trying to pick her up. Lexington County authorities are looking for a man who may have tried to pick up a 9-year-old South Congaree girl who was walking home from her school bus stop Thursday afternoon.

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National News

Associated Press: Senate gives pre-dawn OK to Democratic budget

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

Alan Fram

An exhausted Senate gave pre-dawn approval Saturday to a Democratic \$3.7 trillion budget for next year that embraces nearly \$1 trillion in tax increases over the coming decade but shelters domestic programs targeted for cuts by House Republicans.

Reuters: Senate narrowly passes first budget in four years

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/03/23/us-usa-fiscal-budget-idUSBRE92M02D20130323>

David Lawder

The Senate on Saturday narrowly passed its first federal budget in four years, a move that will usher in a relative lull in Washington's fiscal wars until an anticipated summer showdown over raising the debt ceiling. The budget plan was passed by a 50-49 vote in the Democratic-controlled chamber. Four Democratic senators facing tough re-election campaigns in 2014 joined all the Senate Republicans in opposing the measure, which seeks to raise nearly \$1 trillion in new tax revenues by closing some tax breaks for the wealthy.

Politico: Keystone wins big in Senate

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/03/keystone-wins-big-in-senate-89242.html>

Darren Goode

The Senate issued a symbolic, filibuster-proof endorsement of the Keystone XL pipeline Friday evening, further increasing the pressure on President Barack Obama to green-light the project despite massive resistance from his environmental base. Seventeen Democrats joined all of the Senate's Republicans in a 62-37 vote for Sen. John Hoeven's budget amendment urging approval of TransCanada's oil pipeline.

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