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Governor Nikki Haley News

Associated Press: Conn. gun maker celebrates move to gun friendly SC
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=K7iSGI1e
JEFFREY COLLINS

South Carolina's welcome to Connecticut gun maker PTR Industries on Monday was as much a gathering to celebrate the second amendment as to celebrate more than 100 new jobs coming to the tiny town of Aynor. PTR Industries decided to move from its home in Bristol, Conn., after that state passed stricter gun laws in April in response to the killings of 20 children and six educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School.

The Sun News: Officials celebrate gun maker moving to Horry County
<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/06/24/3553807/officials-celebrate-gun-maker.html>
Steve Jones

The crowd that gathered in front of Aynor Town Hall Monday afternoon reminded some of the old timers there of the crowds that would congregate outside tobacco warehouses waiting the start of the season's first auction. Like the tobacco crowd, that in Aynor was there to hear about its economic future and to celebrate the anticipation of better days to come.

Note: Finally, he agreed with the three reasons S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley gave for why the company decided to move to the Grand Strand. First, she told those at Town Hall that South Carolina will stay out of the company's way and let it focus on making a profit. Secondly, South Carolina has a good, loyal workforce. And thirdly, she said to a cheer from the crowd, "We don't have unions in South Carolina because we don't need unions in South Carolina."

WPDE: Gun maker relocates to Cool Springs Business Park in Aynor (Video)
http://www.carolinalive.com/news/story.aspx?id=913449&gotocomments=1&fb_comment_id=fbc_1385123961703887_8242_1385201511696132#.UcmWmpySLdU
Joel Allen

Governor Nikki Haley, along with other South Carolina legislators and leaders, announced Monday that the gun maker PTR Industries, will be relocating to the Cool Springs Business Park in Aynor. "They were kicked out of Connecticut, let's show them that they're loved here in South Carolina," South Carolina Representative Alan Clemmons said.

Note: Governor Nikki Haley credited the state's largely non-union workforce and aggressive economic recruiting efforts for bringing the rifle manufacturer to the state. "We do have a very pro business environment, we do take care of those that take care of us and so our small businesses and companies are very well taken care of in this state by getting out of their way," Gov. Haley said.

WMBF: Gun maker relocates to Cool Springs Business Park (Video)
<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/22665860/new-company-set-to-open-doors-in-cool-springs-business-park>
Governor Nikki Haley and Congressman Tom Rice met in Horry County to announce that PTR Industries is relocating its business to the Cool Springs Business Park. With that investment in the Aynor area of Horry County and the jobs the gun manufacturer will create, the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation says the company's move is a big win for the Palmetto State. More than 600 jobs have come to the Grand Strand area since January 2013!

Associated Press: Haley signs bill that could bring \$1B to SC roads
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=YApwopr
JEFFREY COLLINS

After years of being left out of the state's spending plans for its extra revenue, South Carolina's roads and

bridges are finally getting some additional money. But it isn't as much as the people who build and maintain the highways or business leaders want. Gov. Nikki Haley signed a bill into law Monday that uses a mix of new revenue from growth, reallocated sales taxes from vehicles and borrowing to raise up to \$1 billion over the next 10 years to improve the state's roads and bridges.

Note: "Let's see what happens. A billion dollars is a lot of money," Haley said. "I've always said a great economy is in a state with a lot of orange cones everywhere." South Carolina's spending on its roads and bridges has been stagnant for years as the state spent money on other priorities, or recently, just tried to survive the Great Recession. The state's gas tax is unchanged from 1987 at 16 cents a gallon, but there was absolutely no support to raise it or any other taxes.

Greenville News: Haley signs \$700 million transportation bill

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130624/NEWS/306240038/Haley-signs-700-million-transportation-bill>

Tim Smith

Gov. Nikki Haley said this morning she will wait to see what happens with road and bridge money approved by lawmakers before deciding whether to support more funding next year for the state's crumbling infrastructure. Haley made her comments after signing a transportation funding bill that could raise more than \$700 million for roads and bridges.

Note: Haley said agencies always ask for more money and she wants South Carolinians to focus on what they do have with this new funding, instead of what they don't. "We are creating jobs for the future," she said, surrounded by business leaders.

The State: SC Gov. Haley signs \$1 billion roads bill

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/06/24/2832924/gov-nikki-haley-signs-500-million.html>

ADAM BEAM

After Gov. Nikki Haley signed into law Monday a bill pledging to spend close to \$1 billion over the next 10 years to repair S.C. roads, state Department of Transportation Secretary Robert St. Onge said what a lot of people were thinking. "You can count on the fact that it's not enough," he said.

Note: "I'm extremely pleased; I think it's a major step in the right direction," Setzler said. "Our roads are in such terrible shape, and we are so far behind. This won't come anywhere close to solving the problem, but it will certainly make a dent in the problem." Haley signed the bill over the objections of some in her own party, who wanted Haley to veto the borrowing.

South Carolina Chamber of Commerce: Governor Signs Infrastructure Funding Legislation

http://www.scchamber.net/mediacenter.aspx?article_id=349

Press Release

Today at the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce, Governor Nikki Haley signed legislation investing close to \$600 million in the state's infrastructure. This includes \$50 million in recurring funds allocated to the State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) to be bonded for \$500 million. The package also includes moving half of the sales tax on automobiles to the Highway Fund on a recurring basis, generating about \$41 million annually.

Additionally, \$50 million in one time funds will be used for bridge repairs. Mike Brennan, chairman of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce and president of BB&T South Carolina, said, "For many years, the business community has been united on the need for significant investment in our state's infrastructure, which will make a positive impact on economic development and job creation."

Note: "We thank Governor Haley and the General Assembly for their leadership on investing in our roads. This is a great first step, and the South Carolina Chamber will continue to advocate for a comprehensive road funding plan that will spur job creation and put South Carolina at the forefront of economic development," said Otis Rawl, president and CEO of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce.

GSAB: Gov. Nikki Haley signs abandoned buildings measure into law

<http://www.gsabusiness.com/news/48096-gov-nikki-haley-signs-abandoned-buildings-measure-into-law>

A state tax credit seen as an incentive for the rehabilitation, renovation and redevelopment of abandoned buildings has been signed into law by Gov. Nikki Haley. The effort intended to revive languishing real estate applies to projects started in tax year 2013. An abandoned building is defined as a structure on which at least 66% of the space has been closed continuously to business for at least five years. The bill allows a taxpayer a credit of 25% of the actual rehabilitation expenses incurred at the building site. The bill includes a \$500,000 individual cap on the tax credit benefit.

Post and Courier: Federal health care website promises insurance marketplace 'coming soon'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130624/PC16/130629660/1177/federal-health-care-website-promises-insurance-marketplace-x2018-coming-soon-x2019>

Lauren Sausser

The federal government unveiled a redesign of healthcare.gov this morning, announcing that the federal "health insurance marketplace is coming soon." The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act establishes health insurance exchanges or marketplaces where individuals can pick a health insurance plan online. Some states are creating their own health insurance exchanges, but South Carolina will not.

Note: In a November 2012 letter to Sec. Kathleen Sebelius of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Gov. Nikki Haley wrote that South Carolina will not set up its own health insurance exchange because "a committee of informed stakeholders" determined it was not the best course for the state.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution: S.C.'s Nikki Haley suggests she might not seek reelection

<http://www.ajc.com/weblogs/political-insider/2013/jun/24/scs-nikki-haley-suggests-she-might-not-seek-reelec/>

Jim Galloway

In an interview with the Florence Morning News, Gov. Nikki Haley of South Carolina, her state's first female governor, raises the possibility that she won't seek a second term next year. Though she has laid the ground work for her 2014 re-election bid, Haley stopped short of committing to a run to keep the governor's mansion next year.

Washington Post: Haley says she might not run for reelection

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/post-politics/wp/2013/06/24/haley-says-she-might-not-run-for-reelection/>

Aaron Blake

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley (R) says in a new interview that she may not seek reelection in 2014. "If we look and it's too much on the family, I could absolutely see [not running again]," she told the Florence Morning News. Haley's husband is currently deployed to Afghanistan — having just returned there after a two-week leave — and the couple has two young children.

Huffington Post: Nikki Haley Still Undecided On Reelection Bid In 2014

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/06/24/nikki-haley-reelection_n_3490757.html

Mollie Reilly

South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley (R) may not seek reelection in 2014, the Florence Morning News reported Sunday. Haley, who was first elected as governor in 2010, told the newspaper that while she has a reelection campaign structure in place, she has not formally committed to running for a second term. "If we look and it's too much on the family, I could absolutely see [not running again]," she said.

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South Carolina News

Post and Courier: Three Democrats filed for S.C. Senate 42 seat

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130624/PC16/130629662/1006/three-democrats-filed-for-sc-senate-42-seat>

Robert Behre

At least four candidates, including three Democrats, have entered the race to fill Robert Ford's former state Senate seat. And more could emerge before the filing period closes early next week. Those filing Monday include Democrats Marlon Kimpson, Emmanuel Ferguson, and Margaret Rush.

Post and Courier: Who's paying your legislator? (Opinion)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130625/PC1002/130629611/1021/who-x2019-s-paying-your-legislator>

Editorial

Those legislators who insist that South Carolina's ethics laws are just fine should try explaining how lawmakers differ so widely on what income from public entities they believe they are required to disclose. The State newspaper reported this week that only 23 percent of what lawmakers reported was in the form of salaries and reimbursements from public sources. And it gave numerous examples of how those numbers were flawed because everyone has a different idea about what is necessary to report.

Associated Press: Joint Ga-SC port inches ahead, too slowly for some

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

RUSS BYNUM

Plans by Georgia and South Carolina to build a shared terminal for cargo ships on the Savannah River inched forward Monday with an agreement to spend \$748,000 on studies and consulting work in the next year. Local officials, hungry for the jobs a new port would bring, complained the states are dragging their feet. "They're stalling under whatever pretext they can," said Tom Johnson, a councilman for Jasper County, S.C., where the proposed \$3.3 billion port terminal would be built. "It's the same thing they've been doing since 2007."

Associated Press: Pleicones challenging Toal for SC's top court seat

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=BYdd9T4U

Longtime South Carolina Chief Justice Jean Toal is getting a challenger in her quest for a second full term. Hopkins Rep. Joe Neal says he got a letter last week from Associate Justice Costa Pleicones (pluh-KOH-nus) announcing his intent to seek the court's top seat.

The State: Justice Pleicones will face Toal in State Supreme Court chief justice race

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/06/24/2832791/justice-pleicones-will-face-toal.html>

JOHN MONK

State Supreme Court Associate Justice Costa Pleicones has announced his intention to run against current Chief Justice Jean Toal for the top spot on the powerful five-member court. Two members of the Richland County Legislative Delegation said they received letters last week from Toal and Pleicones announcing their runs in next year's chief justice race. It's a 10-year term.

Post and Courier: Lindsey Graham calls for Russia to surrender Edward Snowden

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130624/PC16/130629658/1006/lindsey-graham-calls-for-russia-to-surrender-edward-snowden>

Robert Behre

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham wrote Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak Monday to seek his country's help in returning leaker Edward Snowden to the United States to stand trial. Graham released his letter to Kislyak a day after Snowden flew from Hong Kong to Moscow. Graham, R-S.C., has been among the most vocal calling for Snowden's prosecution and defending the National Security Administration's policies on sifting through cellphone logs and other computerized records to try to pinpoint terrorists.

The State: SC still encouraging kids to endanger themselves, and us (Opinion)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/06/25/2833392/scoppe-sc-still-encouraging-kids.html>

Cindi Ross Scoppe

FOR AS LONG as human beings have been consuming alcohol and being transported by something other than their own feet, people have been driving drunk. It was only after we got motorized vehicles — and a lot of them — that this became a threat to public safety. So it took a while for society to realize that drinking and driving was a dangerous combination. But while our laws still aren't as tough as they ought to be, we finally realized this was a problem.

Post and Courier: No Supreme Court decision today in Veronica battle; more opinions expected Tuesday

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130624/PC16/130629675/1177/no-supreme-court-decision-today-in-veronica-battle-more-opinions-expected-tuesday>

Andrew Knapp

Matt and his wife Melanie Capobianco tried to hold back tears before they had to turn over Veronica in Charleston on Saturday, Dec. 31, 2011. The Capobianco's had to deliver Veronica to her biological father, Dusten Brown, because of a 1978 law that applies to American Indian children. (Grace Beahm/postandcourier.com) Buy this photo The U.S. Supreme Court issued six opinions this morning, but none of them pertained to the custody battle for 3-year-old Veronica, a case that could have implications on future adoptions of American Indian children.

Associated Press: Third Army gets Lt. Gen. Terry as new commander

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

The Third Army based in central South Carolina is getting a new three-star general as its commander. Lt. Gen. James Terry is taking over the command Tuesday from Lt. Gen. Vincent Brooks, who is becoming the

four-star general in charge of the U.S. Army in the Pacific based in Hawaii. Brooks has been in charge of 3rd Army since 2011.

Associated Press: Clemson trustees set tuition 3 percent higher

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=O6ZBSU3b

Clemson University's board of trustees is raising undergraduate tuition by three percent as it tries to pay for more faculty, technology and facilities. The university's leaders on Monday approved a tuition increase that amounts to \$190 per semester for in-state students and \$444 for out-of-state students. The school last year approved a 3 percent increase for in-state students and a 4 percent increase for out-of-state students.

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Hyperlocal News

Associated Press: N Charleston breaks ground on new community center

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

A South Carolina city is breaking ground on a new community center. North Charleston officials on Tuesday are celebrating the start of construction on a facility to replace the current Miner Crosby Community Center.

Post and Courier: Berkeley Council passes resolution to tide county over until budget is approved

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130624/PC16/130629606/1006/berkeley-council-passes-resolution-to-tide-county-over-until-budget-is-approved>

Brenda Rindge

Berkeley County residents will have to wait a while longer to find out if they will have a tax increase next year, and employees will have to wait to see if they will get a raise. The Berkeley County Council Finance Committee was set to discuss the budget and council was going to give it a final reading Monday night, but the items were pulled from the committee and regular meeting agendas on Friday.

Post and Courier: Charleston County school building program to face temporary cash-flow problem

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130624/PC16/130629653/1006/charleston-county-school-building-program-to-face-temporary-cash-flow-problem>

Diette Courrégé Casey

The prospect of delaying construction on the new Chicora School of Communications building didn't sit well with parent Kenneth Settles. The school building where his seven children spent their elementary years has dealt with everything from mold to floods to rodents, he said.

Post and Courier: Charleston County School Board signs off on \$383.2 million 2013-14 school year budget without tax increase

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130624/PC16/130629605/1006/charleston-county-school-board-signs-off-on-3832-million-2013-14-school-year-budget-without-tax-increase>

Diette Courrégé Casey

School board member Todd Garrett didn't want to raise Charleston County property owners' taxes, and neither did a majority of his colleagues. The first-year board member came up with the last-minute cuts and additions that enabled the board to balance the district's \$383.2 million general operating budget without a tax increase. All but one of his fellow board members voted in favor of the second and final budget reading Monday night.

Post and Courier: Roadway expansion in North Charleston taking shape

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130624/PC16/130629681/1006/roadway-expansion-in-north-charleston-taking-shape>

Diane Knich

A massive and expensive network of new roads is emerging along a portion of Interstate 26 in North Charleston. Dubbed the "Boeing Corridor," the area is bounded by Dorchester Road and I-26, and by West Montague Avenue and Ladson Road. The area for many years has needed more roads to handle traffic, said North Charleston Mayor Keith Summey, but Boeing accelerated the need when it set up operations at Charleston International Airport.

The State: Richland County continues to lead state in road deaths

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/06/25/2834070/richland-continues-to-lead-state.html>

JOHN MONK

Richland County continues to place first of all 46 counties in the state in the number of people who are getting killed on its roads. As of midnight Sunday, 30 people died on county roads and streets so far this year.

The State: Richland County leads state in homeless rise, study says

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/06/24/2833522/richland-county-leads-state-in.html>

TIM FLACH

The number of homeless people in Richland County rose significantly during the past two years, a study by an advocacy group says. A Jan. 24 count taken by volunteers associated with the S.C. Coalition for the Homeless found 1,518 men, women and children in shelters, on the streets and in other places in the county, an increase of 453 from the last tally of 1,065 in 2011.

The State: Columbia reaches key agreement with developer for vast Bull Street neighborhood

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/06/24/2832941/columbia-reaches-key-agreement.html>

CLIF LeBLANC

The long-awaited agreement that spells out Columbia's public investment in the proposed Bull Street neighborhood is to be released Monday and carries a price tag that eventually exceeds \$50 million. The development agreement between Columbia City Council and Greenville developer Bob Hughes contains development benchmarks that Hughes must meet for the public money to continue to flow into construction of utilities, roads and other upgrades, including possibly a \$20 million baseball stadium, Mayor Steve Benjamin said.

Greenville News: Duke customers voice frustrations over proposed rate hike

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130625/NEWS/306240060/Duke-customers-voice-frustrations-over-proposed-rate-hike>

Rudolph Bell

Upstate residents revolted against Duke Energy's latest plans for a rate hike during a public hearing Monday night with state regulators in Greenville. Hundreds of residents attended the night meeting at County Square for a chance to protest Duke's request, which would raise home power bills another 16.3 percent by Sept. 18.

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National News

Post and Courier: U.S. Supreme Court sends affirmative action case back to lower court

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130624/PC16/130629619/1006/us-supreme-court-sends-affirmative-action-case-back-to-lower-court>

Natalie Caula

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday sidestepped a clear ruling on the constitutionality of affirmative action in college admissions, but kept the practice intact for now. The high court's decision in a Texas case instructs lower courts to more closely scrutinize schools' justifications for using race as a factor in diversifying student bodies. But the justices stayed clear of tinkering with the foundation of affirmative action.

Gannett: IRS report: Other 'inappropriate' screening done

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2013/06/24/irs-tea-party-targeting-report-werfel/2452935/>
Deirdre Shesgreen

Internal Revenue Service agents in Cincinnati used additional "inappropriate" lists to flag certain tax-exempt applications for extra scrutiny, IRS Principal Deputy Commissioner Danny Werfel told reporters Monday. The IRS has previously acknowledged that the Cincinnati field office, which reviews all tax-exempt applications, used a "be on the lookout" list -- or BOLO list -- that included words like "tea party" and "patriot" to determine which groups should be subject to heightened scrutiny.

Associated Press: US futures up with week's first indicators on tap

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/06/25/2834078/us-futures-up-with-weeks-first.html>

Volatile trading on Wall Street is continuing as stock futures recover from a big sell-off at the start of the

week. Dow Jones industrial futures are up 61 points to 14,649. The broader S&P futures have added 8.5 points to 1,574.70. Nasdaq futures are up 17 points to 2,861.

USA Today: Obama to call for carbon cuts at power plants

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130625/NEWS/306250024/Obama-call-carbon-cuts-power-plants>
David Jackson

President Obama plans to announce new rules Tuesday to restrict carbon pollution at new and existing power plants, part of what he calls a comprehensive plan to combat climate change. In a speech at Georgetown University, Obama will also direct the Interior Department to permit new wind, solar, and other renewable energy projects on public lands, enough to power 6 million-plus homes by 2020.

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