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Subject: Remembering Those Who Serve

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May 23, 2014

Travel experts are predicting that this Memorial Day will be one of the busiest in over a decade in South Carolina: drawing nearly half a million motorists to our state's highways, adding a boost to the state's tourism industry and generating millions in revenue.

However, as we celebrate and recognize the significance of Memorial Day - honoring the brave men and women who died while serving in the country's armed forces - it is also important we celebrate those who continue to serve and those whose service brings them back to South Carolina to work in other capacities to support our state. South Carolina's military community generates nearly \$16 billion in economic activity and supports more than 135,000 jobs. The military footprint in our state is strong, and

Just Announced

E&I Engineering, Ltd. is locating its U.S. operations in Anderson County. The \$17 million investment is expected to create 250 jobs.

[Read More](#)

Plastic Products Company Inc. (PPC) is establishing in Oconee County. The \$3.2 million investment is expected to create 68 new jobs.

[Read More](#)

RPA Development to

we honor their service and contributions.

This weekend as we gas up our grills, enjoy the state's beautiful beaches and soak up some of the good South Carolina sunshine, we also pause to commemorate the lives lost defending our country, and support the thousands of brave men and women who continue to serve.

"...the highest obligation and privilege of citizenship is that of bearing arms for one's country." - George S. Patton Jr.

Bobby Hitt, Secretary of Commerce

expand in Greenville County and add 43 jobs. The company is locating to a larger facility in Mauldin.
[Read More](#)

Comact Equipment US Inc. is expanding its Dorchester County facility. The \$1.8 million investment will more than double the facility's current employment.
[Read More](#)

Upcoming Events

2014 SC Clean Energy Summit

Googlefest 2014

[Full Calendar of Business Events](#)

Newsmakers

Export programs help businesses take local products global

U.S. Census: Mount Pleasant ninth fastest-growing city in nation in 2013

New federal water bill good news for both SC ports

Clemson plant breeders develop crops used for food, fiber and fuel

German-owned Mankiewicz Coatings expanding Charleston

Spotlight: Agribusiness

Agribusiness plays a big role in the Palmetto State's future as it contributes to the economy of every South Carolina county. The industry has a direct and indirect economic impact of nearly \$34 billion a year, making agribusiness and forestry one of South Carolina's top producing sectors.

The state's East Coast location, access to populous areas, abundant natural resources, business-friendly environment and innovative agriculture education and training make South Carolina the perfect location for agribusinesses to grow. The state has been just right for innovative agribusiness companies like **ArborGen**. The biotechnology company is largest global supplier of seedling products and uses advanced technology to improve the productivity and sustainability of the global commercial forestry industry. To date, the company has invested approximately \$18.5 million in its Summerville location.

ArborGen is one of the many companies in South Carolina that are using innovation

to support agriculture in the state. In today's agribusiness industry, there are endless possibilities for the creation of value-added facilities and companies specializing in agribusiness.

*Photo courtesy of **ArborGen***

operations

Work picture
brightens in S.C.,
Beaufort and Jasper
counties

Horry County leads S.
C. in April job creation

3 entities receive RIA
infrastructure grants

Commerce Capture: South Carolina: America's Number One Golf Destination

The **history of golf in South Carolina** dates all the way back to 1786, when the nation's first golf club was formed in Charleston by Scottish merchants. More than two centuries later, the tradition of golf is still booming in the Palmetto State. With more than 400 championship golf courses - including three on **Golf Digest's** "100 Greatest Golf Courses" and 11 of their "100 Best Public Golf Courses," lists - coupled with the state being home to two of **USA Today's Top 1 Golf Destinations**, South Carolina is considered by many as the "Golf Capital of the South."

*Photo Courtesy of **The Cliffs Communities**. The Cliffs is located in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains, reaching north to Asheville, No Carolina, and south to Greenville, South Carolina.*

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