

Title: **Trump won by running against both political parties, Gov. Haley says**  
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# Trump won by running against both political parties, Gov. Haley says

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley said Donald Trump won election as president by running against both political parties.

Haley told conservative lawyers who met in Washington on Friday that Trump's victory offers Republi-

cans a chance to regain the public's trust, but only if the party restrains spending and returns power to the states.

Haley said voters rejected "the political class of all stripes, Republicans included."

She said Republican control of the White House and Congress

offers the party a rare opportunity, and that it's important that Trump and Republican leaders in Congress take action quickly and "we don't stop."

Haley acknowledged that she was not Trump's "biggest cheerleader."

But she said she voted for him and was thrilled that he won.



Cliff Owen/Associated Press

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley speaks at the Federalist Society's National Lawyers Convention.

Title: **President pro tem should fulfill oath, or step down**

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## *President pro tem should fulfill oath, or step down*

The office of president pro tempore in the Senate confers extraordinary powers to its occupant, ranging from appointments to state agencies and legislative conference committees, and beyond. That office also, however,

confers substantial obligations upon its holder, including the obligation to ascend to and discharge the duties of Lieutenant Governor in the event that office becomes vacant.

By way of illustration, I would point to the words of then-President Pro Tempore Glenn McConnell immediately prior to his "ascension" upon Lt. Gov. Ard's resignation:

"... What I do today is what every person who seeks and holds office should be prepared to do — fulfill the oath of office we made to discharge the duties of the office to which we are elected and uphold the constitution of this state and the United States...."

Sen. Leatherman sent a letter to all members of the Senate last week stating that under no circumstances would he ascend to the office of lieutenant governor in the event that office became vacant while he served as the president pro tempore — a material declaration of intent given Gov. Nikki Haley's nomination by



President-elect Donald Trump to serve as UN ambassador and the vacancy in the office of lieutenant governor that would ensue when Gov. Haley is confirmed for that federal position.

Senator Leatherman's desire to exercise the benefits of the office of president pro tempore and to avoid discharging this burden stands in stark contrast to the position expressed by Sen. McConnell, in particular the following portion, which bears repeating:

"Today we remind the public that oaths of office matter and people should and can expect that whoever takes the oath of office as President Pro Tempore will do as they swore to do and fulfill the constitutional duty of becoming Lt. Governor, if there is a permanent vacancy in that office.

"Today I simply perform the duty I swore to do when I took the oath of office as President Pro Tempore."

And this is why I was one of today's nine "No" votes.

— Sen. Tom Davis  
Beaufort

*On Dec. 6, the Senate voted 34-9 to re-elect Senate Finance Chairman Hugh Leatherman as president pro tempore. Sen. Tom Davis entered a statement in the official Senate Journal to explain why he was one of the nine who voted "no." A slightly adapted version of that statement is below:*

Title: **Lieutenant governor drama is just the latest legislative slip-up**  
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**CINDI ROSS SCOPPE • ASSOCIATE EDITOR • THE STATE**

# *Lieutenant governor drama is just the latest legislative slip-up*

**I**F THERE'S ONE thing we can always count on our Legislature to do, it's provide drama in the most undramatic of places. Latest example: who assumes the all-but-meaningless position of lieutenant governor when that all-but moment occurs and the lieutenant governor becomes governor.

Until recently — which is to say, in all those times in the past 50 years when it didn't matter a whit — the answer was undramatically obvious, spelled out in the state constitution: The Senate president pro tempore becomes lieutenant governor. Indeed, the printed copy of the constitution suggests that is the very reason the Senate is to elect a president pro tempore, which might surprise occupants of that powerful position. ("The Senate shall as soon as practicable after the convening of the General Assembly choose a President Pro Tempore to act in the absence of the Lieutenant Governor.")

But then in 2012 the Legislature very wisely asked voters to let gubernatorial candidates pick their running mates, rather than having us elect the lieutenant governor separately, and the voters very wisely said yes, and the Legislature ... well, the Legislature was less than careful in writing the bill that completes the constitution-amending process.

You know, as it seems to be far too often. Like when law-

makers passed a law to require elected officials to file financial disclosure statements electronically but failed to notice that it also applied to candidates, and no one else noticed it either, until the Supreme Court ruled that 250 of them hadn't filed properly and kicked them off the ballot. Or when lawmakers accidentally made it legal for 18-year-olds to have sex with 14-year-olds. Or when they accidentally legalized video gambling.

Clearly, some accidents aren't accidents but the result of devious legislators pulling fast ones on their insufficiently attentive colleagues. But the lieutenant-governor mistake was pure carelessness, and besides, it will probably all work out just fine. And even if it doesn't, it'll *still* work out just fine, because, really, what does it matter whether we even *have* a lieutenant governor? Well, except on those rare occasions when it does ... like if something were to happen to Henry McMaster once he ceases being lieutenant governor and becomes governor.

So, where were we? Oh yes, the 2012 Legislature figured that if future governors were going to pick their lieutenant governors, it wouldn't make sense for a vacancy in that office to be filled by the president pro tempore; the governor should simply select someone new. And this would start in 2018.

Unfortunately, the bill the Legislature passed to ratify the constitutional amendment didn't include the part about the governor not filling a vacancy until 2018. It's clear from the text that legislators *meant* for it to say that, but it doesn't say

that. So the online version of Section 11 of Article IV of the South Carolina Constitution says if the office of lieutenant governor becomes vacant, the governor fills that vacancy. Which everyone agrees it shouldn't say, but does. Just like all those laws that weren't supposed to be

laws, but are.

None of this would matter if President-elect Donald Trump hadn't picked Gov. Nikki Haley to be his ambassador to the United Nations. It wouldn't matter, for that matter, if Senate President Pro Tem Hugh Leatherman hadn't said he won't fill Mr. McMaster's seat — and strongly suggested that he wouldn't let some other senator take his position long enough to become lieutenant governor. Because barring an objection by Mr. McMaster — who so far has been far too wise to express an opinion on this matter — I can't think of anyone our Supreme Court would have granted standing to challenge the usual succession procedure.

But Mr. Trump did and Mr. Leatherman did, and so here we are, in the middle of another State House drama. And not a particularly significant one, since I feel confident that, if it were asked and agreed to answer, the Supreme Court would say the constitution says what the Legislature clearly intended it to say.

What's potentially significant is the question of what happens if the president pro tempore refuses to do what the constitution says he "shall" do: Would anyone ask the Supreme Court to force him to either become lieutenant governor or quit being president pro tempore? Is

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there anyone the court would even grant standing to bring such a suit? Would the court actually tell the person who controls its budget that he has to do something he is determined not to do? If so, how would it enforce that order?

And what would it say about the rule of law to have the state's most powerful politician

in open defiance of it?

But as the ever-coy Mr. Leatherman said last week, we'll cross that bridge when we come to it.

Meantime, let us hope that the current drama results in severe institutional embarrassment, because our Legislature really needs to learn that details matter.

Just as we have a lieutenant governor to make sure we're

covered on the extremely remote chance that we ever need one, we need our lawmakers to get the details right in bills to make sure we're covered on the less remote chance that ... we need to be.

*Ms. Scoppe can be reached at [cscoppe@thestate.com](mailto:cscoppe@thestate.com) or at (803) 771-8571.*

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**EVERYONE AGREES IT SHOULDN'T SAY THAT, BUT IT DOES — JUST LIKE ALL THOSE LAWS THAT WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE LAWS, BUT ARE.**



Title: **Center will serve children of island's bused service workers**  
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## MOST MEMORABLE

# Center will serve children of island's bused service workers

EMMA'S HOUSE IS SCHEDULED TO OPEN DEC. 22 FOR VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS IN A 'CHRISTMAS COFFEE' EVENT.

BY ERIN HEFFERNAN  
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*The Island Packet and The Beaufort Gazette will update readers on some of the most memorable people we covered in 2016. Here is the third story in our "Where are they now?" series.*

Lottie Lewis has watched as Allendale and Hilton Head Island have been linked for decades.

Every day, workers from the rural S.C. town commute 2 ½ hours one way on public buses to fill service industry jobs on the island. Many leave behind children who stay with older relatives. In some cases, kids are left home alone after parents leave for the island at about 5 a.m. until they return at 7:30 p.m.

So Lewis, an Allendale City Council member and community activist, decided to step in and do something for what she calls Allendale's "latchkey children," who have nobody at home after school.

Lewis and her husband, Frank Lewis, have worked for three years to convert an old home on Wagner Street in Allendale into a community center Lewis called "Emma's House," named after her mother.

But what Lewis never suspected was that an outpouring of support would flow back to her cause from the beneficiary of so much of Allendale's workforce: Hilton Head.

Emma's House is now set to open this month, thanks in part to items and almost \$2,000 donated from Hilton Head residents who gave after first reading Lewis' story in The Island Packet and The Beaufort Gazette in August as part of the newspapers' series on the local workforce, "Propping Up Paradise."

"The support has been outstanding," Lewis said. "People here have to sacrifice to get to work on Hilton Head, so it's something that their children can get help from people in the community where they work to get to everyday ..."

Emma's House is scheduled to open Dec. 22 for volunteers and supporters in a "Christmas Coffee" event. The organization plans next month to accept its first group of students enrolled in an after-school study program.

### A LITTLE PURPLE REFUGE

Almost everything in Emma's House is purple. The color fills the house in honor of Lottie's mother, Emma Polite, who was known as the "purple lady" for her wardrobe and habit of planting purple flowers, Lewis said.

A few new purple touches, new books, food, clothes and countertops have all been added to the space from Hilton Head donations to the house.

The Original Six Foundation,

a nonprofit created by S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley to help the state's neediest communities, has also been instrumental in opening Emma's House, Lewis said.

The foundation is providing support through its after-school program already in place in other low-income areas of South Carolina, including help with enrollment and the curriculum.

Haley was originally scheduled to attend the opening event this month before she was appointed as President-elect Donald Trump's nominee for the position of ambassador to the United Nations, Lewis said.

Children attending Emma's House will get snacks and a program focused on helping them study, as well as socialize in a safe space, Lewis said.

The program also benefits from other donors, church groups and volunteers Lewis has enlisted to help teach classes and provide support.

One of the volunteers, Earline Jones, a public school bus driver in Allendale for 30 years, said she sees the problem Emma's

**SEE EMMA'S HOUSE, 8A**

## ABOUT THIS SERIES

This week, The Island Packet and The Beaufort Gazette will update readers on some of the most

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memorable people we covered in 2016. All of the stories, photos and videos in the series can be found at islandpacket.com.

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

- **HOW WE KNOW THEM:** Lottie Lewis was featured in the

“Propping Up Paradise” series, which explored Hilton Head Island’s workforce crisis, for her work helping children whose parents make five-hour daily round trips to work on Hilton Head.

- **WHAT’S NEW:** Lewis is set to open her after-school center, “Emma’s House,” in Allendale

this month and raised about \$2,000 from Hilton Head residents for the cause.

## TO DONATE

Call Lottie Lewis at 803-584-4556. All donations to Emma’s House will be made through the 501(c)(3) charity Allendale Enterprise.

## FROM PAGE 1A

# EMMA’S HOUSE

House is hoping to address firsthand.

“I drop these kids off at the end of the day, and I know there’s no one there waiting for them,” Jones said. “And you can see over the years that it’s had an effect. That’s why I come here to help Miss Lottie because we need this. They need this.”

Lewis’ next goals include adding central air conditioning and heat to the house, which now relies on space heaters and fans, if she can raise the funds through donations and grants. She said she is also working to make the house an internet hotspot, as most

students in Allendale struggle to do schoolwork without internet at home.

The system of busing service industry workers from Allendale to Hilton Head likely won’t end anytime soon, given limited job opportunities close to home, Lewis said.

“So all we can do is try to make it better,” she

said. “And you know I’ll never stop doing that.”

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Lottie Lewis stands in the entertainment room of the community center called "Emma's House," named after her mom, on Dec. 2 in Allendale. Emma's House is set to open Dec. 22 and will provide a place for children to do their homework and socialize in an after-school program.