

C.V. Shashikumar
56 Talbot Road
Harriman, NY 10926

01/05/2017

Ms. Nikki R. Haley
Governor of South Carolina
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

Thank you for your Christmas greeting card.

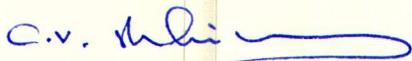
My wife and I had the privilege and opportunity to attend your Governor's inauguration Gala in Columbia, South Carolina on January 14th 2015. Please see the attached newspaper photo of myself and my wife appearing in "The State" newspaper.

We are very interested to be a part of your upcoming swearing-in ceremony, as a Cabinet Member of Trump administration as well as Ambassador to the United Nations Organization of the USA. Can you please consider us as your guests to attend your swearing-in ceremony?

Please convey my warm regards to your father.

Please contact us if you need additional information from us.

Thank you and congratulations,



C.V. Shashikumar

Then South Carolina's first couple danced along with the state's constitutional officers to "What a Wonderful World" performed by The Headliners.

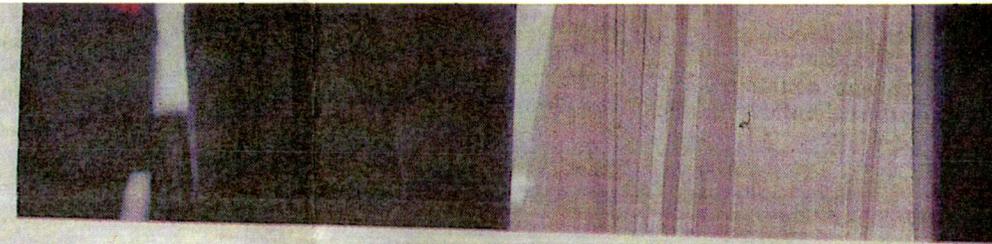
GOLDWATER JR. HITS THE DANCE FLOOR

Barry Goldwater Jr. came from Phoenix for Haley's inaugural festivities.

The son of the same-named Republican U.S. senator from Arizona, who lost to Lyndon B. Johnson in the 1964 presidential race, said he came to support Haley.

Haley is "a contender for president or vice president," he said.

"She's a great leader with a great record," he said, adding it's "too early to say" whether Haley has



Haley and her husband, Michael, greet guests. The governor's 'Leticia' gown was designed by London designer Catherine Deane.

TRACY GLANTZ/TGLANTZ@THESTATE.COM

a chance at higher office. Goldwater also had some advice for U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., who is considering a GOP presidential run in 2016. "Graham needs to stay in the Senate where he can do some good."

Goldwater's insurance consulting firm, The Goldwater Taplin Group, sponsored a 2011 fundraiser for Haley in Irving, Texas, with suggested contributions of

\$500, the Texas Observer reported.

A special guest at that fundraiser, attended by insurance executives, was Eleanor Kitzman, then the Texas insurance commissioner.

Kitzman, recently nominated to be chief of the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, also attended Haley's inaugural gala.

Kitzman is returning to

the Palmetto State, where the Texas native previously was S.C. insurance commissioner under Gov. Mark Sanford from 2005-07 and, briefly, was director of the State Budget and Control Board. Most recently, Kitzman has worked for a private insurance business in New York.

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applaud Ms. Wentworth for her touching words and hope the people of South Carolina, across the country and peoples around the world are as touched by her words as I have been."

Meanwhile, state NAACP officials have invited Wentworth to read her poem - including references to slavery and the Confederate flag - at Monday's King Day at the Dome rally, an annual State House event. Wentworth told National Public Radio that she wouldn't miss it.

Open house: 'She'll hug anybody' Dozens of people lined up to see the newly re-inaugurated governor during an open house at the Governor's Mansion.

Lois Williamson and **Bill Russ**, a Lexington couple, were among the first waiting to pass through security.

The pair, both retired state employees, also attended pre-inaugural activities Tuesday evening.

"I've never lived this close to government," said Williamson, 58, who previously lived in Aiken.

She described Haley as very warm and friendly. "She'll hug anybody."

Haley hugged many of those who entered the mansion. She also said "Go Tigers" to a boy wearing a Clemson sweatshirt.

Haley even posed for a selfie with 14-year-old **Leila Schwab**, who said she was "nervous" during the photo but added, "It was really funny."

Leila's mother, **Suzy Schwab**, said they attend Mount Horeb United Methodist Church with the governor, adding she is proud of Haley. "She's done a fantastic job for our state."

Schwab added her son, who needs an excuse for missing school Wednesday, planned to use a signed inaugural program from the governor as his absence excuse.

— Cassie Cope

DID WE SEE YOU THERE?

View a snapshots gallery of inaugural ball guests online at thestate.com.



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thestate.com: You can see more photos and a video from Wednesday night's inaugural gala online.