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Governor Nikki Haley News

Associated Press: DEW director: Overpayments down, collections up
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=CG6zOAvy
SEANNA ADCOX

South Carolina's unemployment agency reports that it's overpaying less and recouping more of the excess benefits it does dole out. But state senators said Monday the numbers are not good enough. "We're certainly heading in the right direction, but we've got work to do," said Sen. Thomas Alexander, whose Labor Commerce and Industry Committee will grill the next leader of the Department of Employment and Workforce on the subject.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley named Cheryl Stanton as her choice for the Cabinet agency last week. A labor lawyer in a New York City firm, Stanton formerly worked for the U.S. Department of Labor under President George W. Bush.

Associated Press: Coastal governors call for more offshore drilling
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=IG4dXUBq
Six coastal governors have called on Washington to open up more waters to offshore drilling and to make permitting a quicker, more efficient process. The governors of Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Alaska spoke Monday at the Offshore Technology Conference in Houston. Officials from Louisiana and Virginia also spoke.

Note: The governors say more drilling would create jobs, strengthen the nation's economy and lower gas prices. North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia want the federal government to allow drilling in their coastal waters, currently banned as environmental and regulatory reviews are conducted.

The State: 1st District could hold key to 2014 for SC Democrats
<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/06/2759422/1st-district-could-hold-key-to.html>
JAMIE SELF

More than former S.C. Gov. Mark Sanford's chance at political redemption is riding on the outcome of Tuesday's special election for the state's 1st District congressional seat, political observers say. A win for Democrat Elizabeth Colbert Busch could ignite hopes that S.C. Democrats again can compete against Republicans for congressional seats and statewide offices, and help them lay the groundwork for picking up support among Lowcountry voters in 2014.

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OCS Governors Coalition

Wall Street Journal: Coastal Governors Want More Offshore Drilling
http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20130506-712474.html?mod=googlenews_wsj

UPI: U.S. governors want more work offshore
http://www.upi.com/Business_News/Energy-Resources/2013/05/07/US-governors-want-more-work-offshore/UPI-92401367923016/

There's a disconnect between state needs and U.S. regulations that inhibits offshore energy development, U.S. governors said. Nine governors told an offshore energy conference in Houston that development on the Outer Continental Shelf was vital for conventional and renewable energy sectors.

Offshore Energy Today: OTC 2013: Governors Call For Timely Approvals for Offshore Projects
<https://www.offshoreenergytoday.com/otc-2013-governors-call-for-timely-approvals-for-offshore-projects/>
The governors underscored their support for federal legislation mandating revenue sharing from the

development of oil, gas and renewable energy resources in the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). They also highlighted the importance of efficient, timely, and consistent regulatory approval for offshore development. In his remarks, Governor Parnell cited lower unemployment in more hospitable places like Aberdeen, Scotland, West Texas, Alberta and North Dakota, and the importance of the federal government unlocking resources to enable new energy production to create jobs.

Alabama.com: Coastal governors call for more offshore drilling
http://blog.al.com/wire/2013/05/coastal_governors_call_for_mor.html

Six coastal governors have called on Washington to open up more waters to offshore drilling and to make permitting a quicker, more efficient process. The governors of Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Alaska spoke Monday at the Offshore Technology Conference in Houston. Officials from Louisiana and Virginia also spoke.

Times Dispatch: Virginia business briefs for May 7
http://www.timesdispatch.com/news/local/article_6e78b013-65fe-5940-a74c-ec4573a3fdd4.html

Eight coastal states, including Virginia, want to open up more waters to offshore drilling and to make permitting a quicker, more efficient process. Advertisement Governors of Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Alaska spoke Monday at the Offshore Technology Conference in Houston. Officials from Louisiana and Virginia also spoke.

Morning News: Coastal governors call for more offshore drilling
http://www.scnw.com/news/national/article_0e3df8c2-b69a-11e2-957a-0019bb30f31a.html

Six coastal governors have called on Washington to open up more waters to offshore drilling and to make permitting a quicker, more efficient process. The governors of Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Alaska spoke Monday at the Offshore Technology Conference in Houston. Officials from Louisiana and Virginia also spoke.

Houston News: Perry renews call for more offshore energy development, consistent federal regulation
http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/friendswood/opinion/perry-renews-call-for-more-offshore-energy-development-consistent-federal/article_68d3f026-d917-52b3-9b22-fcaf26dbe159.html

Gov. Rick Perry today renewed his call for more offshore energy development and consistent federal regulations in order to help our nation reach its goal of energy independence. The governor spoke at the 2013 Offshore Technology Conference as part of a panel of coastal governors. "Today, energy exploration in the Gulf is safer for our operators and our environment than ever before. Technological and procedural advances have opened up huge sources of energy, giving us the capability to reach vast stores of energy reserves previously thought untouchable," Gov. Perry said. "With every step forward, we move closer to the day when our nation can reach true energy independence and end our crippling dependence upon foreign regimes to meet our needs."

News 92 FM: Gov. Perry Pushes for Greater Energy Independence
<http://news92fm.com/350592/gov-perry-pushes-for-greater-energy-independence/>
Matt Sampsell

Texas Governor Rick Perry didn't say "drill baby drill," but he did make it clear that Texas needs to pump more black gold from the Gulf of Mexico. The governor also says off shore oil drilling is back and better than before.

Rig Zone: OCS Governor Coalition: Opportunity Lies Just Offshore
http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/126298/OCS_Governor_Coalition_Opportunity_Lies_Just_Offshore
Robin Dupre

Represented states should have the authority to delegate what happens and occurs in the Gulf of Mexico waters, a panel of nine individuals discussed Monday at the Offshore Technology Conference. The nine individuals are members of the Outer Continental Shelf Governors Coalition which was formed in 2011 to promote a constructive dialogue between the federal government and states when it comes to the responsible development of energy resources offshore. Each member of the coalition, during the OTC session, discussed the appropriate role of the various coastal states and the federal government in making decisions for offshore development.

Triangle Business Journal: McCrory pushes N.C. energy exploration in weekly address

<http://www.bizjournals.com/triangle/blog/2013/05/mccrory-pushes-nc-energy-exploration.html>

Lee Weisbecker

In word and deed, North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory is pushing hard to clear the way for energy exploration off the North Carolina coast. On Monday, McCrory went to Texas to take part in a panel discussion with a handful of other governors at the Offshore Technology Conference in Houston.

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South Carolina News

Post and Courier: Sen. Robert Ford denies most ethics allegations in new filing

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130507/PC16/130509463/1006/sen-robert-ford-denies-most-ethics-allegations-in-new-filing>

Stephen Largen

State Sen. Robert Ford is denying most of the ethics violations he's accused of but admits accounting errors led to inaccuracies in campaign filings. Ford also is ready to address individual campaign account expenditures questioned by the Senate Ethics Committee, according to an initial response filed by Ford's attorney Bill Runyon with the panel last week.

Post and Courier: State Ports Authority board holding special meeting Tuesday regarding inland port in Upstate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130506/PC05/130509515/1010/state-ports-authority-board-holding-special-meeting-tuesday-regarding-inland-port-in-upstate>

Tyrone Richardson

The State Ports Authority has scheduled a special meeting on Tuesday to discuss action needed for development of an Upstate cargo yard in Greer. Agency officials have said the 40-acre project remains scheduled to open in September, despite an escalating legal dispute with a tenant that leases part of the site.

The State: Alan Wilson case reinforces need for random audits (Opinion)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2759196/editorial-alan-wilson-case-reinforces.html>

Editorial

We haven't seen anything to suggest that Attorney General Alan Wilson deliberately withheld information from the public when he failed to list nearly \$70,000 worth of donations and expenditures in his 2010 campaign to become the state's top prosecutor. Unlike other cases, where elected officials have gone to great lengths to hide or misrepresent donations, this case strikes us as precisely what Mr. Wilson's campaign says it was: shoddy record keeping. And it's to his credit that rather than simply report the donations he realized had gone unreported after being questioned by reporters, he hired an independent accountant to review nine months worth of records.

Greenville News: Push to pick GOP candidates at convention turned back

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130507/NEWS/305070039/Push-pick-GOP-candidates-convention-turned-back>

Rudolph Bell

South Carolina Republicans who want to continue picking the party's candidates through a primary say they've turned back a push by some activists who wanted to start picking candidates through a vote of party regulars at a convention. Activists who wanted the state party to nominate by convention in 2014 complain that the current open primary system facilitates the nomination of so-called RINOS — Republicans in Name Only — by allowing Democrats to vote in GOP primaries.

Greenville News: Mortgage funds must be accessible (Opinion)

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130507/OPINION/305070004/Mortgage-funds-must-accessible>

A pool of money that had been set aside by the federal government to help some homeowners facing foreclosure to keep their homes deserves to be more widely used. Less than 20 percent of the \$295 million set aside three years ago has been released, according to a recent report in The Greenville News. That doesn't make sense in a state that has had one of the highest unemployment rates and one of the highest foreclosure rates in the wake of the Great Recession.

Associated Press: SC teacher who stomped flag gets payment

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Et13TRS2

A Chapin High School teacher removed from the classroom when he stomped on an American flag while discussing freedom is being paid \$85,000 to avoid a legal challenge. The State newspaper (<http://bit.ly/13eJez6>) obtained documents under the Freedom of Information Act that show Scott Compton is being paid the settlement by Lexington-Richland District 5, in addition to his salary through June 7.

The State: Chapin teacher got \$85,000 in flag stomping deal

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/06/2759418/chapin-teacher-got-85000-in-flag.html> TIM FLACH

Lexington-Richland 5 paid former Chapin High teacher Scott Compton \$85,000 to avoid a legal challenge, part of a settlement that led to his resignation after he stomped on an American flag during a class lesson. The payment is on top of Compton's salary that will be paid through June 7, even though he has been out of the classroom since December. School officials did not provide Compton's salary Monday, but their plan pays teachers with his 12 years' experience \$43,340 to \$59,647 a year.

Post and Courier: Approaching its 25th anniversary, Coastal Conservation League looks to the future

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130507/PC16/130509468/1006/approaching-its-25th-anniversary-coastal-conservation-league-looks-to-the-future>

Diane Knich

The Coastal Conservation League has been trying to protect the Lowcountry's natural environment for nearly 25 years. At its annual conference this week, the group will begin to plan for how it will continue to do that in the future. Dana Beach, the league's founder and executive director, said the conference will focus on taking stock of what has been accomplished and launching plans for the organization's next phase.

Herald-Journal: Gay teen makes groundbreaking run for title of Miss SC

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/06/2759502/gay-teen-makes-groundbreaking.html>

FELICIA KITZMILLER

Analouisa Valencia, a 19-year-old beauty queen from Spartanburg, regularly gets interview requests from across the country, and despite her natural shyness, she accepts them all. As the first openly lesbian contestant for Miss South Carolina and one of a small number of multi-racial contestants, Valencia has had her picture in national, regional, local and niche publications this spring.

Greenville News: Furman president stepping down

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130507/NEWS/305070040/Furman-president-stepping-down>

Furman University President Rod Smolla will step down June 30, citing personal reasons, said university spokesman Vince Moore. Carl Kohrt, a trustee and 1965 Furman grad, will serve as interim president, Moore said.

Greenville News: Clemson University names interim provost

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130507/NEWS/305070006/Clemson-University-names-interim-provost>

Nadim Aziz was named Clemson University's interim provost and vice president for academic affairs to replace Doris Helms when she retires next month, the university reported. Aziz, who was chairman of the university's civil engineering department when he was appointed associate provost for faculty development and support a year ago, will assume his new duties July 1.

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SC-1 General Election News

Associated Press: Sanford's quest for redemption rests with voters

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

BRUCE SMITH

It's now up to voters render a verdict on former South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford's quest for political redemption, as one of the more unusual political campaigns in a state known for rough-and-tumble politics draws to a close. Sanford, once mentioned as a potential GOP presidential contender, saw his political career disintegrate four years ago when he disappeared for five days, telling his staff he was hiking the

Appalachian Trail. He returned to admit he had been in Argentina with his mistress - a woman to whom he is now engaged.

Associated Press: Colbert Busch, Sanford, make last vote pitches

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

BRUCE SMITH

Former Gov. Mark Sanford campaigned with GOP leaders while Elizabeth Colbert Busch appealed for last-minute votes as her blue and white bus rolled through South Carolina's 1st Congressional District on Monday, their tumultuous campaigning near a close. Sanford, a Republican, and businesswoman Colbert Busch, a Democrat and sister of political satirist Stephen Colbert, face each other Tuesday in a special election for the seat Tim Scott held until his appointment to the U.S. Senate. Green Party candidate Eugene Platt also is on the ballot.

Post and Courier: Polls are open in 1st Congressional District special election: Find list of polling sites here

[http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130507/PC16/130509444/1006/polls-are-open-in-1st-](http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130507/PC16/130509444/1006/polls-are-open-in-1st-congressional-district-special-election-find-list-of-polling-sites-here)

[congressional-district-special-election-find-list-of-polling-sites-here](http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130507/PC16/130509444/1006/polls-are-open-in-1st-congressional-district-special-election-find-list-of-polling-sites-here)

The polls are open in the 1st Congressional District special election. Voters streaming in at a steady pace at many of the precincts haven't been shy about whether they're voting for Republican Mark Sanford or Democrat Elizabeth Colbert Busch.

Post and Courier: Mark Sanford, Elizabeth Colbert Bush face the voters in contentious 1st Congressional District race

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130507/PC16/130509447/1006/mark-sanford-elizabeth-colbert-bush-face-the-voters-in-contentious-1st-congressional-district-race>

Robert Behre

Will South Carolina's former governor gain redemption, or will the comedian's sister get the last laugh? Lowcountry voters will decide today, as they head to the polls to settle one of the most competitive and nationally scrutinized congressional elections in state history.

Post and Courier: Cameras to be allowed in Sanford court hearing

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130506/PC16/130509512/1006/cameras-to-be-allowed-in-sanford-court-hearing>

Schuyler Kropf

It now appears cameras and recording devices will be allowed in Thursday's court hearing on Mark Sanford's alleged trespassing of his ex-wife's home. Jenny Sanford had initially sought to ban cameras, but the filing was dismissed today.

Post and Courier: It's your turn to choose in 1st Congressional District race (Opinion)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130507/PC1002/130509484/1021/it-x2019-s-your-turn-to-choose-in-1st-congressional-district-race>

Editorial

The pollsters say it's up for grabs. So both sides know that these are the three most important factors in today's 1st Congressional District special election between Mark Sanford and Elizabeth Colbert Busch: Turnout, turnout and turnout. This race has attracted considerable attention in and beyond the district and state. It has also stirred some hard feelings.

The State: National view: SC 1st District race

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/06/2758763/national-view-sc-congressional.html>

The national media has descended on Charleston and the Lowcountry, looking for political fodder in Tuesday's special election for the SC 1st District congressional seat, vacated earlier this year when Tim Scott was appointed to a U.S. Senate seat. Former SC Gov. Mark Sanford is waging a pitched battle against Elizabeth Colbert Busch, a businesswoman who works for Clemson, and older sister of comedian Stephen Colbert.

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Associated Press: Myrtle Beach charity alcohol sampling canceled

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

A Revenue Department ruling has prompted the cancellation of a charity alcohol sampling event in Myrtle Beach. The department said alcohol donations from distributors to nonprofit events such as Coastal Uncorked are not allowed.

Associated Press: Congaree park expects floodwaters over trails

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

The Congaree National Park southeast of Columbia is expecting floodwaters over most of its trails this week. The State newspaper reported (<http://bit.ly/18riPQI>) the National Weather Service is expecting the highest flood levels in the park since 1988.

The State: Flooding hits Congaree River, national park

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/06/2758731/rain-hit-much-harder-in-some-areas.html>

JOEY HOLLEMAN

If you were planning to go hiking in Congaree National Park this week, you need to change plans. The combination of a wet spring and drenching weekend rains has pushed several rivers to flood levels, including the Broad, Congaree, Enoree, Saluda and Santee. If the National Weather Service forecast is accurate, flood waters at Congaree National Park will reach heights they haven't hit since 1988.

Associated Press: Former firm manager pleads guilty in Greenville

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=3edFMdb3

The former manager of an investment firm in Easley has pleaded guilty to fraud charges. The Greenville News reported (<http://gmol.co/10IQwNh>) Arthur Field pleaded guilty Monday to 11 counts of securities fraud, two counts of conspiracy and one count of forgery.

Greenville News: Ex-investment firm manager pleads guilty

Arthur Field to be sentenced later

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130507/NEWS06/305070015/Ex-investment-firm-manager-pleads-guilty>

David Dykes

Arthur Field, the former investment firm manager who had defiantly denied wrongdoing, pleaded guilty Monday to 14 counts of criminal conduct related to his business, Easley-based Capital Investment Funding. In a plea agreement with prosecutors, Field admitted to 11 counts of securities fraud, two of conspiracy and one of forgery — all of the charges against him.

Post and Courier: Holes in training, procedure cited in Charleston fireboat crash

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130507/PC16/130509448/1006/holes-in-training-procedure-cited-in-charleston-fireboat-crash>

Andrew Knapp

On its way to a shipwreck last month, Charleston's fireboat skirted along the buoys marking a channel in the harbor. A crew member noticed that the 36-foot boat was close to the buoys, but he said nothing. It was dark, and it was the first time the skipper had ever taken the vessel out at night.

The State: Finalist for election chief drops out

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/06/2759370/finalist-for-election-chief-drops.html>

DAWN HINSHAW

One of the finalists for the Richland County elections director job dropped out Monday, leaving two S.C. candidates in the running to lead an office damaged by a lack of public confidence. Adam Ragan, director of elections in Gaston County, N.C., said he had decided over the weekend that the job wasn't "a good fit."

Greenville News: Hilton Head in magazine's top 10 list

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130507/NEWS10/305070009/Hilton-Head-magazine-s-top-10-list>
Brian Heffernan

A national parenting magazine has put Hilton Head Island at the top of its list of the 10 Best Beach Towns. Parents magazine praised the island's beaches, unblemished views of the stars, kid-focused museums and renovated hotels.

National News

Associated Press: Hole-in-one as Obama golfs with 3 senators

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=9hy3fuSQ

NEDRA PICKLER

So much for overshadowing your rivals, Mr. President. Republican Sen. Saxby Chambliss didn't seem fazed by a rare congressional invitation to golf with President Barack Obama Monday, sinking a hole-in-one on the par-three 11th hole. The ace shot helped lead Chambliss and GOP teammate Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee to victory over the Democratic duo of Obama and Colorado Sen. Mark Udall on an outing meant to strengthen ties between the president and Congress.

Post and Courier: A conservative case for immigration reform (Opinion)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130507/PC1002/130509485/1021/a-conservative-case-for-immigration-reform>

Editorial

A political advocacy group has spent more than \$300,000 to air television commercials touting immigration reform legislation. The ads, which began airing last week, feature an up-and-coming senator stressing the need for the bill. The organization paying for that message is not a liberal outfit seeking electoral advantage by adding Hispanics to the voting rolls.

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