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Duncan reacts to Obama's jobs plan

President's \$450 billion American Jobs Act unveiled during Thursday night address



JEFF DUNCAN

By CHRIS TRAINOR
ctrainor@indexjournal.com

President Barack Obama addressed Congress Thursday night, detailing a new jobs plan, a \$450 billion endeavor dubbed the American Jobs Act. The president has requested lawmakers pass the plan with expediency. Meanwhile, some House

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■ Small businesses say new jobs plan could potentially stimulate hiring if sales also increase, 10A

Republicans — including Third District U.S. Rep. Jeff Duncan — were quick to downplay the president's new plan. According to a report from

CNN Money, the president's job plan calls for \$253 billion in tax cuts and \$194 billion in new spending.

The plan, as proposed by Obama, would extend unemployment benefits, cut payroll taxes and increase taxes for wealthy Americans. According to a report from Fox News, the plan would also spend \$25 billion on

school infrastructure to modernize at least 35,000 public schools, including spending on computer labs and emergency repairs.

Duncan said he was not pleased with the proposal for more new spending and added he views the president's plan as yet another stimulus package.

"What I heard him say (Thursday night) was, 'Read my

lips: No new jobs,'" Duncan said. "We've had stimulus packages. This is just round three of more government spending and more government that (Obama) believes will spur the economy. I disagree with him. I think government has to get out of the way. I think too

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SC NATIONAL GUARD | HONORING VETERANS



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The S.C. National Guard's Black Hawk helicopter is welcomed by visitors to Self Regional Medical Center on Friday during its stay in Greenwood.

BLACK HAWK DOWN IN GREENWOOD

Helicopter lands at Self Regional in The Wall That Heals event

By RUSSELL COX
rcox@indexjournal.com

The S.C. National Guard's Black Hawk helicopter touched down on the lawn before Self Regional Medical Center to a round of applause from a gath-

ered crowd.

The show of support from the assembled, including veterans, many Self employees and others, reflected what the organizers of the weeklong events surrounding the Greenwood visit of The Wall That Heals had hoped: ongoing appreciation for those who have served in the armed

forces.

Anna Cuson, a Major in the Civil Air Patrol, the civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force and also Self's senior internal auditor, was part of the team which brought in the helicopter to her workplace.

The full weekend of events has been planned as a salute to vet-

erans. "to show them how much we care for them."

Throughout the ongoing events, members of the Civil Air Patrol are performing many tasks ranging from guarding the touring Vietnam Wall to directing traffic for events.

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■ LAURA INGRAHAM SHOW

SC gov insults reporter, calls her 'little girl'

Haley says she 'regrets' remark about Post and Courier writer

Associated Press

COLUMBIA — South Carolina's first woman governor called a woman reporter in Charleston a "little girl" over an article detailing at least \$127,000 in taxpayer dollars spent by the governor and other state officials on a European economic development trip.

In a syndicated radio talk show interview Thursday, Republican Gov. Nikki Haley was asked about last Sunday's article by Renee Dudley in The Post and Courier of Charleston.

"And all I will tell you is: God bless that little girl at The Post and Courier. I mean, her job is to try and create conflict. My job is to create jobs. In the end, I'm going to have jobs to show for it," Haley said on "The Laura Ingraham Show."

Friday, Haley redoubled the criticism, but said she regretted the personal remark.

"The story painted a grossly inaccurate picture and was unprofessionally done, but my 'little girl' comment was inappropriate, and I regret that," Haley said. "Everyone can have a bad day. I'll forgive her bad story, if she'll forgive my poor choice of words."

That's off the mark, too, said Drucilla Barker, director and professor of women's studies at the University of South Carolina. "Oh my God. I find that almost as offensive as calling her a little girl. It was an easy way to demean a reporter and take away her credibility. Little girls are sent from the room so adults can speak," Barker said.

"That reporter doesn't need Nikki Haley's forgiveness," Barker said. "She should apologize for using the words 'little girl.'"

Rick Nelson, the newspaper's content editor, declined comment on the issue.

Melanie Balog, a columnist for the paper, called Haley's criticism "catty."

"No, I'm talking about how you stooped to a condescending, catty low Thursday in talking about another woman," Balog wrote. "The governor of the great state of South Carolina called another woman a little girl?"

Bill Rogers, executive director of the South Carolina Press Association, said it was "a poor choice of words, and it's a sexist, personal attack rather than a response to the story. I think it's ironic coming from the first woman governor to call an award-winning journalist a little girl."

Dudley was reporting facts, not creating conflict to sell papers, Rogers said. "The public can read that story and make their own decisions."

The story detailed a weeklong trip in June by Haley and two dozen others. It included stays at five-star hotels, drinks at the Ritz Paris and an upgraded "chalet" at the Paris Air Show, where the state had previously rented a booth. With a Boeing Co. manufacturing plant in North Charleston and BMW Manufacturing in Greer, Haley said she needed to court aerospace companies at the Paris event and manufacturers in Munich.

Haley spokesman Rob Godfrey said Haley

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NIKKI HALEY

3 SC men killed in early terror wars are kept dear

Associated Press

JEFFERSON — The three men never met each other, but they had much in common even before they were among the first to die thousands of miles away from their small South Carolina towns soon after the U.S. invaded Iraq in the second part of the war on terror.

As the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks nears, the families of those men have taken different paths to mourn their loved ones.

Coming tomorrow

■ We Remember: A special section in recognition of the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks

There was George Buggs III, the 11-year veteran of the Army who left behind his estranged wife and 12-year-old son, whose confusion has turned into anger; Jason Hicks, a newlywed flight engineer seven years into his Air Force career, whose legacy is a

scholarship in his name at his high school; and Spence McNeil, a teenager just seven months out of basic training, whose mother seeks out other women who have buried a son.

Their families said all three men were inspired by the heroism shown by firefighters and others on Sept. 11, 2001, which renewed their ambition to protect their country from enemies.

WANDA BUGGS KNOWS her 31-year-old husband, Staff

Sgt. George Buggs III, died March 23, 2003, during an ambush after 18 vehicles in a convoy in the opening days of the war in Iraq took a wrong turn on the road to Baghdad and found themselves in a town still filled with supporters of Saddam Hussein.

What she doesn't know is if he died in a crash, in a hail of gunfire as he shot back at the enemy or perhaps an execution after he was captured and interrogated.

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TODAY: Mostly sunny. High of 86. FORECAST, 10A