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Subject: MidlandsBiz: Carolina Financial completes merger with Congaree State Bank; Ameris Bank board member honored with Israel Bonds Star of David Award

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ON THE MOVE IN THE MIDLANDS

Carolina Financial Corporation completes merger with Congaree Bancshares, Inc.

Carolina Financial Corporation announced the completion of its previously announced merger with Congaree Bancshares, Inc. As part of the merger agreement, Congaree's bank subsidiary, Congaree State Bank, has merged with CresCom Bank, a South Carolina bank and the wholly-owned banking subsidiary of Carolina Financial. Carolina Financial plans to complete systems integration in July. [Read More](#)

Ameris Bank board member Bill Stern honored with the Israel Bonds Star of David Award

Ameris Bancorp Director and Ameris Bank – SC Community Board Member Bill Stern was recently given the Israel Bonds Star of David Award. [See More](#)

Masonite International expanding Bamberg County operations

Masonite International, one of the world's leading manufacturers of decorative interior doors and entry door systems, is expanding its existing Bamberg County operations. [See More](#)

Alexa Stillwell recognized as SCSAE 'Executive of the Year'

The South Carolina Society of Association Executives (SCSAE) recognized Alexa Stillwell as the Executive of the Year on June 5, 2016 during the 2016 Annual Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina. [See More](#)

Katie Riley earns NCIDQ Certification

Studio 2LR Architecture + Interiors announced that Katie Riley has passed her NCIDQ exam and is a Certified Designer. [See More](#)

Urgent Security Threat

By Kevin Wade: Recently at IntelliSystems, we have noticed an increase in email ransomware attempts. There is no way to guarantee that you or an employee will not open one of these unsuspecting emails, but we would like to equip you with some tips that could potentially save your data, money, and time. [See More](#)

MPA Strategies expands; welcomes Sarah Hammett

MPA Strategies would like to welcome Sarah Hammett as the newest addition to their team. [See More](#)

WH Trucking celebrates grand opening of new facility

WH Trucking, LLC celebrated the opening of their new facility located at 610 Leonard Road in Duncan, South Carolina on June 7, 2016, with an attendance of approximately 120 supporters. [See More](#)

Colliers International attracts another tenant to Synergy Executive Park

Colliers International's Henry Roe and Allen Wilkerson represented the landlord in leasing 12,028 square feet of office space in Synergy Executive Park. [See More](#)

Richland Library hosts public art workshops

Richland Library is inviting the community to have a hand in shaping the look and feel of its new location in Ballentine. [See More](#)

Phillips Staffing promotes Chris Borke to Branch Manager

Phillips Staffing has promoted Chris Borke to Branch Manager of the firm's Midlands and Greenville presence, effective immediately. [See More](#)

Order of Contributions

By Corinne Hannah, CFP®: Whether you are an employee deciding about your annual benefits at election time or an employer deciding which benefits to offer, make your workplace benefits work for you. [See More](#)

Op-Ed: Sheriff Lott is the best man for the job

By W. Thomas Smith Jr.: Rarely do I champion or speak out for political candidates. I've advised a few over the years, but I usually don't wave banners publicly. [See More](#)

How to Offer Feedback in an Office Obsessed With Being

Positive

Brian Maynor, Style Coach: “Over the past several years employers have been focused on creating positive work environments that they started requiring employees to maintain them in their handbooks, but recently that requirement essentially be ‘happy at work’ was challenged and defeated by the U.S. National Labor Relations Board, ruling employers cannot force you to be happy.” [Read More](#)

South Carolina students raise nearly \$400,000 to help fight blood cancers

This school year, South Carolina students set high goals in joining the Student Series campaign for The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. [See More](#)

Secrets of Entrepreneurship – Find out what people want

By Jerry Bellune: Business guru Tom Peers called it strategic listening. It is critical to harvesting ideas from all sources. [See More](#)

The City of Cayce ranks high in list of easiest places to sell a home as more people choose to call Cayce home

SmartAsset, a financial advisory website, recently conducted a study using their interactive “Healthy Housing Markets” calculator to find the cities in South Carolina where it is easiest to sell a home– and the City of Cayce ranked in the top 10! [See More](#)

SCSBA names the Twin City Rotary Club and the Batesburg-Leesville Rotary Club Champions for Public Education

The South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA) will honor the Twin City Rotary Club and the Batesburg-Leesville Rotary Club with the Champions for Public Education Award on Tuesday, June 14, during the Lexington School District Three School Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. [See More](#)

SCSHA VP of Governmental Affairs elected to President Elect-Elect

The South Carolina Speech Language Hearing Association (SCSHA) is thrilled to announce Michelle L.W. Dawson, MS, CCC-SLP has been elected to the position of President Elect-Elect on the board of directors. [See More](#)

Ridge View High School athletic program garners national recognition

Ridge View High School is the recipient of the National Athletic Trainers' Association Safe Sports School award for its Blazer Athletic program. [See More](#)

Top Grossing Movies – June 13

See the list of top grossing movies for the week here! [See More](#)

CREW Cocktails this Thursday at Publico

June 16 - Cool off with CREW Cocktails this summer, CREW Cocktails will be the third Thursday of June, July and August. We kick off our first event off in June at Publico Kitchen + Tap in 5points. [See More](#)

BIA to Host Building Codes Workshop

June 16 - The 2015 International Residential Construction (IRC) codes for residential construction are scheduled to go into effect in South Carolina on July 1st. [See More](#)

Town Hall Meeting on Every Student Succeeds Act Implementation and Impact in South Carolina Schools

June 16 - On Thursday, June 16, at 6:00 pm at Irmo High School, The South Carolina Education Association will hold a Town Hall Meeting open to the general public to discuss the South Carolina implementation of the new Every Student Succeeds Act, and how it will affect and improve public education in our state. [See More](#)

Salute from the Shore to feature 'Air Parade' of F-16s and vintage military aircraft flyover

July 4 - Salute from the Shore, a 501(c)3 organization, was founded in 2010 by patriotic South Carolinians to honor our armed forces on Independence Day. [See More](#)

Events around Columbia and the Midlands

See business and after hours events here. [Read More](#)

Political cartoons from Robert Ariail

Published on MidlandsBiz.com almost daily. [See More](#)

Kathleen Parker: Once a great notion

"It was such a marvelous idea: The United States of America. Obviously, we've never really pulled it all together under one hat, but it has always seemed that at least we were striving for a more perfect union." [Read More](#)

Robert Samuelson: The (false) robot invasion

"The robots are coming — but not in numbers that would imperil most Americans' jobs."

[Read More](#)

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