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To:
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Subject: Morning Clips – Tuesday, November 29, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: One idea for S.C.'s Volkswagen settlement money: Fix the school bus fleet
http://www.postandcourier.com/news/one-idea-for-s-c-s-volkswagen-settlement-money-fix/article_2b6db1cc-b35c-11e6-92c8-17efce54d9e8.html

Paul Bowers

The state of South Carolina has \$31.6 million coming its way as part of Volkswagen's massive Environmental Protection Agency settlement for thwarting diesel car emissions tests. One idea for spending that cash: overhaul the aging state-owned school bus fleet. State Sen. Marlon Kimpson, D-Charleston, wants Gov. Nikki Haley to set aside \$24 million of the state's settlement money, which is meant for environmental mitigation projects, to buy 300 new high-efficiency school buses. "What better way to address these needs than with some money that is not part of our budget, some newfound money that hasn't already been spoken for?" Kimpson said. The EPA cited Volkswagen in September 2015 for equipping many of its recent diesel cars with a "defeat device" to thwart tests of nitrogen oxide emissions. A federal court in California approved a \$14.7 billion settlement agreement on Oct. 25 this year.

NOTE: Kimpson presented his plan months ago to Haley and state Education Superintendent Molly Spearman.

NOTE: The Volkswagen settlement agreement gives the governor authority to submit a spending plan and appoint a state agency to oversee the disbursement of the funds. Kimpson said it would be "prudent for (Haley) to act without delay" so South Carolina can meet the settlement agreement deadlines and take advantage of the earliest rounds of funding.

NOTE: But with Haley poised to leave the governor's office to become the new UN ambassador as early as January, Kimpson may have to make his case all over again. Current Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster is poised to take Haley's place as governor.

WACH: Two top SC female business leaders passed away over Thanksgiving weekend
<http://wach.com/news/local/two-top-sc-female-business-leaders-passed-away-over-thanksgiving-weekend>

Matthew Stevens

Two top female business leaders in the Midlands and throughout the Palmetto State passed away in the last week. Judy Davis and Cathy Novinger passed away November 24 and November 27 respectively. Davis was an Executive Vice President of BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina and Novinger was a Vice President in the SCANA Corporation prior to her retirement. Both women were activity in many campaigns in the community.

NOTE: Governor Nikki Haley released the following statement on Facebook about the two to female figures. "South Carolina lost two amazing women this week who contributed to South Carolina in numerous ways. Judy Davis and Cathy Novinger inspired everyone who came in contact with them with their strength, intelligence, grace, and a love of our great state. Rest, my friends, I'm a better person and we are a better state because of you. You will be missed."

General Assembly News:

The Herald: SC senators nominate attorney as York County magistrate judge

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article117559153.html>

Andrew Dys

York County's state senators have nominated Chisa Johnson Putman, a Rock Hill lawyer, city prosecutor and president of the York County Bar Association, to be a York County magistrate judge. It is believed that Putman, if approved by the governor, would be the just the second black female York County magistrate. "I am very thankful, and welcome the opportunity," Putman said Monday. Putman, 35, is a Winthrop University graduate who later graduated from the Charleston School of Law. The selection of Putman to be a judge where impartiality and autonomy is crucial to the justice system is important in York County, a growing county of about 250,000, with a population of about 50,000 blacks, black leaders said.

WIS: Process to fill openings on embattled RCRC board already underway

<http://www.wistv.com/story/33811164/process-to-fill-openings-on-embattled-rcrc-board-already-underway>

Mike DeSumma

Leaders of the embattled Richland County Recreation Commission are now down to their last chance to make the case to keep their jobs. The five remaining members of the board of commissioners will have to go before a state panel on Wednesday, November 30. If they fail to testify at the hearing they will be removed from their offices by the governor the next day. All five leaders are facing charges for negligence in office and failing to investigate claims of harassment against RCRC's former executive director, James Brown III. Several state lawmakers who called for the board's removal say they're already working on getting new leaders appointed. Two of the board's seven members resigned from their positions over the past two weeks. "I think it's our responsibility as a delegation to make sure we vet the commissioners properly," said state representative Beth Bernstein, "and we're not just putting people whom we're friends with...who are not qualified to be serving in that position."

WSPA: 2010 Law Saved South Carolina Taxpayers Almost \$500 Million

<http://wspa.com/2016/11/28/2010-law-saved-south-carolina-taxpayers-almost-500-million/>

Robert Kittle

A law most South Carolinians have probably never heard of has saved the state almost half-a-billion dollars, according to the Pew Center on the States. The Omnibus Crime Reduction and Sentencing Reform Act of 2010 has reduced the number of state prison inmates by an estimated 8,000, according to the Pew analysis. In 2009, the state expected its prison population to grow to almost 28,000. That would have required the state to build a new prison, which would have cost an estimated \$317 million to build and another \$141 million in increased operating costs. Instead, after the law took effect, the number of inmates has dropped to just under 21,000. Rather than building a new prison, the state has closed six, and is saving \$33 million in operating costs because of the reduced population. Sen. Gerald Malloy, D-Hartsville, who led the fight for the bill in 2010, says, "When Gov. Sanford signed the bill into law, he told me then he agreed with me that this bill was probably the most important measure that he had signed during his administration, that we would know the full effect of it he said for 20 years."

SC Agency News:

The State: Prisons directors across U.S. ask for authority to block inmate cell phone calls

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article117578223.html>

Cynthia Roldan

South Carolina's prisons director on Monday joined a call by the nation's correctional administrators to have the federal government allow them to use cell phone-blocking technology against inmates. In a letter sent to FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler, the Association of State Correctional Administrators asked the agency to re-evaluate its regulations that prevent state prisons from using technology that would block calls from prisoners with illegally obtained cell phones. "Contraband cell phones pose a grave threat to public safety and we must be able to use effective and efficient means to combat this

problem," said Leann Bertsch, president of the association. "Unfortunately, current legal technologies designed to prevent contraband cellphone use are expensive and not 100 percent effective."The FCC has previously denied requests by prisons to use cell phone blocking technology, arguing that correctional officers would be unable to call for help in the case of an emergency. But in South Carolina, state correctional officers are not allowed to carry their cell phones during work hours.

WACH: Organization asks FCC to address contraband cellphones in prisons

<http://wach.com/news/local/organization-asks-fcc-to-address-contraband-cellphones-in-prisons>

Matthew Stevens

South Carolina Department of Corrections have joined in to support of the Association of State Correctional Administrators to confront FCC Chairman Thomas Wheeler about the ongoing problem of contraband cell phones in prisons."When an offender has a cell phone, they have unfettered access to the outside world to continue their criminal ways. We know that blocking the signal is the most effective way to stop this access," Bryan Stirling, Director of SCDC. In a letter dated November 4 from the ASCA to the FCC Chairman, they ask Wheeler to reevaluate its regulations about "the ability of correctional administrators to prevent prisoners from communicating with contraband cell phones."

Dylann Roof Case:

Associated Press: Jury qualification continues in Charleston church shooting

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

Meg Kinnard

The laborious process of juror qualification moves into a second day Tuesday for the white man accused of fatally shooting nine black parishioners at a South Carolina church, with the defendant slowly easing into his role as his own attorney. In the latest twist in the case, Dylann Roof on Monday was allowed to begin representing himself in his federal death penalty trial on dozens of charges including hate crimes and obstruction of religion. Against his attorneys' advice, Roof sought to act as his own attorney, giving no reason except the constitutional provision governing defendants' right to a speedy trial. The move came as potential jurors began reporting to Charleston's federal courthouse. So far, seven people - all of them white - have been deemed qualified to serve on the panel that will decide Roof's fate. Once 70 are qualified - a process expected to take several weeks - attorneys, and now, Roof himself, will whittle that pool down to a jury of 12, plus six alternates.

The State: Judge grants Roof's request to act as own attorney in federal murder trial

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article117469988.html>

John Monk

Three days after accused Charleston church shooter Dylann Roof was found mentally fit to stand trial, he will be his own lawyer in the trial where the federal government is seeking the death penalty. Roof's surprise request to act as his own attorney - made Sunday night and approved Monday morning by U.S. Judge Richard Gergel - means Roof could play a role in questioning witnesses, including survivors of the June 2015 slayings of nine African-Americans who were at a Bible study when a man, after praying with them, pulled out a Glock and opened fire. Jury qualification began Monday. By the time court adjourned around 3:15 p.m., seven out of 20 prospective jurors - all white - had been found qualified to sit as jurors. Six were women; one was a man.

Post and Courier: Day 2 of Dylann Roof helping to pick his own jury begins

http://www.postandcourier.com/church_shooting/day-of-dylann-roof-helping-to-pick-his-own-jury/article_b8b2944c-b629-11e6-bf6a-db3bd45def1b.html

Jennifer Berry Hawes

Accused Emanuel AME Church shooter Dylann Roof continues helping to pick his federal hate crimes jury this morning for a second day after a judge granted Roof's request to represent himself. Despite U.S. District Court Judge Richard Gergel's concerns on Monday, he granted Roof's request to act as his own attorney with the death penalty hanging in the balance. The ruling set the stage for

the self-avowed white supremacist to question the shooting survivors and family members of the nine victims if they are called to testify. Roof made the last-minute request as jury selection was set to begin Monday following a three-week delay to determine whether he was mentally competent to stand trial. Gergel ruled the case could proceed but cautioned Roof against representing himself, noting his defense team's considerable legal expertise. Gergel concluded, however, that Roof has the capacity and a constitutional right to take over his defense. Roof, wearing a grey striped prison jumpsuit, then took over for his attorneys, answering the judge politely and objecting briefly a couple of times. He spoke quietly and sat mostly docile beside the defense team, which still can advise him.

Michael Slagger Case:

Associated Press: Slager to testify in own defense at motorist shooting trial

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=KYO8E2Sa

Bruce Smith

Former North Charleston patrolman Michael Slager is taking the stand to tell his version of what happened when he fatally shot a black motorist fleeing a traffic stop last year. Slager, who faces 30 years to life if convicted of murder in the April 2015 death of 50-year-old Walter Scott, is expected to testify in his own defense Tuesday in a Charleston courtroom. Scott, who was black, was shot five times in the back while running from the white officer. The shooting was captured by a bystander on cellphone video. Slager was fired from the North Charleston Police Department and charged with murder when the video became public. Scott's family has said Scott may have run from the scene because he was behind on child support and afraid of going back to jail.

Post and Courier: Michael Slager set to take stand as 18th defense witness in his murder trial

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/michael-slager-set-to-take-stand-as-th-defense-witness/article_8a6b731e-b5e4-11e6-b31f-4f831924634b.html

Andrew Knapp and Brenda Rindge

Former North Charleston police officer Michael Slager is expected Tuesday to give the most exhaustive accounting yet of Walter Scott's shooting death when he takes the witness stand in his own murder trial. It would be Slager's first chance to explain his actions to authorities in light of the video evidence that led to his arrest — the footage of him shooting Scott in the back as Scott ran away. Seventeen witnesses already have gone before him, offering opinions on when officers should use force and what thoughts stream through a policeman's mind when faced with that decision. On the 18th day of the trial, Slager would become the 18th witness to take the stand in his defense, lending the best insight yet into what led him to open fire. He would face between 30 years and life in prison if convicted of murder.

Serial Killer Todd Kohlhepp:

Associated Press: 3 murder warrants issued for SC man sheriff said killed 7

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

SC State Wire

A South Carolina man suspected of being a serial killer was formally charged with three additional counts of murder Monday for bodies found buried on his land. The murder warrants against Todd Kohlhepp weren't a surprise. Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright already said the 45-year-old real estate agent was responsible for those three killings and four more at a motorcycle shop in 2003. Kohlhepp was charged with killing 32-year-old Charlie Carver between Aug. 30 and Sept. 2. Carver went to see Kohlhepp with his girlfriend to check on a cleaning job when he was shot and killed and she was kidnapped, authorities said. Kohlhepp was arrested Nov. 3 after deputies found Carver's girlfriend chained in a storage container, Wright said.

Herald-Journal: Additional charges filed against Todd Kohlhepp

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20161128/additional-charges-filed-against-todd-kohlhepp?>

rssfeed=true

Zach Fox

Accused serial killer Todd Kohlhepp faces a string of new charges in connection with the three bodies found on his 96-acre property near Woodruff earlier this month. Investigators signed warrants Monday charging Kohlhepp with three counts of murder, three counts of possession of a weapon during a violent crime and one count of kidnapping. This brings the total number of murder charges filed against Kohlhepp to seven. The three murder charges Monday were for the deaths of Charlie Carver and Meagan and Johnny Coxie. "We've got a strong, solid case," Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright told the Herald-Journal. Magistrate Judge Dwight Smith late Monday denied bond for Kohlhepp, who through his attorney had waived his right to appear. Bond for murder charges must be set by a Circuit Court judge. The new charges had been expected. Kohlhepp had previously been charged with four counts of murder. Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright has said he admitted to killing four people at Superbike Motorsports in Chesnee in 2003.

Wildfires Across Southeast:

Associated Press: Storms take aim at large wildfires in South

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0byJp8NI

Bill Fuller and Jeff Martin

As a strong storm system approached some of the largest wildfires burning in the South, the rain signaled new hope for firefighters working to extinguish the blazes. But the storms also brought high winds, which toppled dead trees and could pose a threat to firefighters, authorities said. Experts predicted that rains Tuesday from one storm system would not be enough to end the relentless drought that's spread across several states and provided fuel for the fires. The storms early Tuesday appeared to be taking aim at the nearly 28,000-acre Rough Ridge Fire in north Georgia and the nearly 25,000-acre Rock Mountain Fire that began in Georgia and then spread deep into North Carolina. In Gatlinburg, Tennessee, emergency officials said a wildfire had set 30 structures ablaze, including a 16-story hotel, and was at the edge of the Dollywood theme park.

Associated Press: The Latest: Troops to help as wildfires spread in Smokies

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

SC State Wire

The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency says National Guard troops are being sent in to help out as wildfires continue to spread in Gatlinburg and surrounding areas in the Smoky Mountains National Park. TEMA spokesman Dean Flener says the troops will transport first responders, perform welfare checks and remove debris. Emergency officials in Tennessee ordered evacuations due to the blaze in downtown Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge and in other areas of Sevier County. Officials say the wildfire has set 30 structures ablaze in Gatlinburg, including a 16-story hotel. TEMA says no deaths have been reported, though one person was burned while evacuating. Officials say there are about 1,200 people sheltering at the Gatlinburg Community Center and the Rocky Top Sports Park. Meanwhile, officials say about 12,000 people are without power and three school systems had canceled classes Tuesday.

Opinion/Editorial:

The State: New case, same lesson: We need random ethics audits

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scope/article117614758.html>

Cindi Ross Scope

PERHAPS IT was the October 2014 report that first raised eyebrows. It showed that of the eight expenditures on Sen. Ray Cleary's campaign disclosure report for the previous three months, six were to the senator himself... State law requires a lot more detail than that when legislators spend the money that was given to them by people who probably want to influence their votes. Details that show, for instance, that the expenditures are actually related to running for or holding office, and not

to cover personal expenses. So at some point, the Senate Ethics Committee asked the Georgetown Republican for those details. At some point, the committee asked for documentation — restaurant receipts, for example, or mileage logs, or acknowledgments of the charitable contributions. At some point, Mr. Cleary wouldn't or couldn't provide details or documentation, and the committee asked to look at his campaign bank statements.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: 3 plead guilty to trafficking juvenile American eels

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=dmbAH3QV

SC State Wire

Federal prosecutors say three men have pleaded guilty to trafficking more than \$740,000 worth of juvenile American eels. A statement from the U.S. Department of Justice said Harry Wertan Jr., Mark Weihe and Jay James each pleaded guilty on Monday in federal district court in Charleston to selling or transporting the eels, also known as elvers. Prosecutors say the men either harvested the eels illegally, or knew they had been harvested illegally, in South Carolina. The pleas were the result of "Operation Broken Glass," a multi-jurisdiction investigation that's resulted in guilty pleas from 10 people whose activities resulted in the illegal trafficking of more than \$2.6 million worth of elvers. The three men each face a maximum of five years in prison, a fine of up to \$250,000 or both.

Local News:

Associated Press: More details released in wife's shooting death of husband

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=OOMoO63c

SC State Wire

Authorities have released more details about the shooting where a 59-year-old woman is charged with killing her husband in their Anderson County home. Sheriff's deputies said Janet Selvey shot her husband after they argued around 4 a.m. Monday. Lt. Sheila Cole said in a news release that 60-year-old Ronnie Selvey was shot several times and beaten with a blunt object after the couple had argued the night before. Investigators say Janet Selvey was charged with murder after talking to deputies about the shooting. It isn't known if she had a lawyer.

The Herald: Man who left kids in car admits drug 'problem'; York County judge gives him last chance

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/news-columns-blogs/andrew-dys/article117502933.html>

Andrew Dys

A York County judge gave Jason Ray Grant one last chance Monday to get drug-free and avoid 10 years in prison. The judge ordered Grant to get in-patient drug treatment after the father admitted he had a drug problem. A year ago, Grant left his kids alone in a vehicle for hours while he was in a store bathroom with drugs. Monday's ruling came after a probation agent told the judge that Grant is a "compulsive liar" who has repeatedly tested positive for cocaine, methamphetamine and marijuana, despite being ordered to stay away from drugs. For the first time in several court hearings since his arrest Nov. 28, 2015, where Grant denied he was a drug abuser, he admitted in court Monday that he has a problem with drugs. "I have a problem," Grant said in court. Judge John C. Hayes III ordered Grant to remain in jail until an in-patient drug treatment site is found, but warned that there would be no more chances. Grant had been sentenced to 90 days in jail in September.

Island Packet: FBI investigates threatening letter sent to Islamic Center of Savannah

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/article117617608.html>

Graham Cawthon

A threatening letter sent to the Islamic Center of Savannah has gotten the attention of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. According to WTOG, the letter calls Muslims "the children of Satan" and claims President-elect Donald Trump would do to Muslims "what Hitler did to the Jews." Three mosques in California received the same letter, according to the report.

Herald-Journal: Trial begins for former jail officer accused of assaulting inmate

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20161128/trial-begins-for-former-jail-officer-accused-of-assaulting-inmate?rssfeed=true>

Daniel J. Gross

The state Attorney General's Office on Monday said a former Spartanburg County Detention Center officer was upset when he assaulted an inmate in 2015, while defense attorneys argued he acted in self-defense. Atrous Darrel Styles, 29, of 203 High St. in Spartanburg, was charged with misconduct in office and assault and battery third degree on April 29, 2015, after an incident inside the jail involving him and an inmate.

Styles was immediately suspended after the incident and fired after a State Law Enforcement Division investigation was completed. A jury trial began Monday in Spartanburg County Circuit Court with the S.C. Attorney General's Office prosecuting the case. Prosecutors said during opening statements that Styles was agitated that the inmate had spit on him earlier in the day and willingly came to the inmate's cell to fight him. Prosecutors told the jury that they would see video evidence of Styles opening the inmate's cell door, dropping his keys and striking him in the face.

Herald-Journal: Inmate found hanged to death in Spartanburg County jail

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20161128/inmate-found-hanged-to-death-in-spartanburg-county-jail?rssfeed=true>

A 48-year-old inmate at the Spartanburg County Detention Center was found hanged to death in his cell on Friday, Spartanburg County Coroner Rusty Clevenger said in an email. Kelvin Thomas Taylor, of 140 Chick Springs Road in Taylors, was being held on a family court bench warrant, according to online jail records. The State Law Enforcement Division and Clevenger's office are investigating his death. Preliminary autopsy results showed Taylor died of strangulation by hanging, Clevenger said in a statement. Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright said Taylor was in the medical portion of the Detention Center before being found dead. "From what I know, and the reports I've seen, we did everything properly," he said. "The officers are feeling bad because nobody wants that. We need to pray for the surviving family." Taylor was in jail in Greenville County after a car crash left him injured, but he was transferred to the Spartanburg County jail for other charges, Clevenger stated.

Post and Courier: Cracks emerge in support for rail project serving Port of Charleston

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/cracks-emerge-in-support-for-rail-project-serving-port-of/article_cb270da8-b0c8-11e6-b8f3-cbd9ae319fba.html

David Wren

A ship-to-rail cargo hub proposed for North Charleston - one of the key pieces of a plan to capitalize on large container ships visiting the port - is running into opposition from the railroads it is supposed to serve as well as Charleston's mayor, potentially threatening its scheduled 2019 opening. A CSX Corp. vice president calls the facility "a flawed design," and a Norfolk Southern executive says Charleston-based Palmetto Railways, the project's developer, is ignoring input from the bigger commercial railroads. Both railroads say the project duplicates some of the facilities they already operate and doubt whether there will be enough new cargo to fully support the facility. CSX, for example, says it "can handle anticipated volumes until 2034 if the company makes improvements to its existing terminals." Meanwhile, Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg has asked the Army Corps of Engineers to delay issuing a permit for the project because of traffic, development and other concerns.

Associated Press: Amazon to close North Charleston warehouse, cut 149 jobs

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=LOdV5cJ4

SC State Wire

Amazon will be closing a book-making warehouse in North Charleston, taking 149 jobs with it. The Post and Courier (<http://bit.ly/2gczwLs>) reports that Amazon told the state labor department that it would close the facility permanently on Feb. 15, 2017. The company also said it would give the

employees affected a chance to take a job elsewhere before the warehouse closes. Amazon spokeswoman Sarah Bond says the warehouse prints and ships books and has hundreds of employees who handle shipments in the area. The warehouse will move to the Midlands to be closer to the company's West Columbia distribution hub. The South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce disclosed the layoffs on Monday.

Post and Courier: Amazon to move book-making warehouse in North Charleston, cutting 149 jobs
http://www.postandcourier.com/business/amazon-to-move-book-making-warehouse-in-north-charleston-cutting/article_5324cf8c-b5b1-11e6-aae8-fb1a4182e1f2.html

Thad Moore

Amazon is closing a book-making facility in North Charleston next year, the company told state regulators, taking almost 150 local jobs with it. The warehouse is tied to Amazon's Createspace subsidiary, a self-publishing service for unsigned authors and artists. The service, which makes books, CDs and DVDs on demand, was initially known as BookSurge, a Lowcountry startup that the online retail giant bought in 2005. In a letter to the state labor department, Amazon said it would give the 149 affected employees a chance to take a job elsewhere before closing the warehouse permanently Feb. 15. The S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce disclosed the layoffs Monday. Amazon calls its warehouses "fulfillment centers." The Investment Drive site, which prints and ships books, is moving to the Midlands to be closer to the company's West Columbia distribution hub, said Sarah Bond, an Amazon human resources representative in Charleston. That facility has hundreds of employees who handle shipments to customers around the region.

The State: Chinese firm to break ground on \$300 million plant in Richland County
<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/article117576048.html>

Jeff Wilkinson

Richland County and fiberglass products manufacturer China Jushi will break ground Dec. 8 for a \$300 million plant expected to create 400 jobs. The ceremony is set for 10:30 a.m. The company, headquartered in Zhejiang, China, announced in May that it would establish its first U.S. fiberglass manufacturing operation in the county's Pineview Industrial Park near I-77. The firm in 2012 established a distribution center in Columbia, at 901 Idlewilde Blvd. The company plans an 80,000-ton production line in its new facility. The factory should be completed within two years. Jushi Group Chairman Yang Guoming said in May that South Carolina's business climate "offers us the best support for our investment."

Associated Press: Daniel Defense breaks ground for new facility
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=SVs0SNZR
SC State Wire

Daniel Defense has broken ground on a \$29.5 million project that is expected to bring an estimated 75 jobs to Bryan County by the summer of 2017. The new location will combine Daniel Defense's existing facilities located at the Interstate Center in Black Creek and its second one in Ridgeland, South Carolina. Marty Daniel, the president and CEO of the company, said Monday the new facility puts all of the company's resources in one place. Currently Daniel Defense is the number three manufacturer of firearms, firearms rail systems and accessories. Daniel tells the Savannah Morning News (<http://bit.ly/2gE3PaW>) he has his eyes on becoming number one.

Morning News: Pharmaceutical company taking over Roche facility
http://www.scnw.com/news/local/article_7d62fb5a-b590-11e6-b674-0729381db09f.html
Joe Perry

A little over a year ago, Roche Carolina Inc. announced a restructuring as the Switzerland-based pharmaceutical concern sought a buyer for its Florence facility. Sold. Pharmaceutical developer and manufacturer Patheon announced Monday it has signed an agreement to take over the 300,000-square-foot facility situated on 1,100 acres along Old Marion Highway. "Under the terms of the purchase agreement, Patheon will acquire the site for an immaterial sum, plus the cost of associated

inventory and spare parts," a press release on Patheon's website stated . "Patheon has also entered into a multi-year supply arrangement with Roche. Patheon expects the supply agreement to help defray the costs associated with running the site for the next few years while it adds new client work into the facility. Over time, Patheon expects the Florence facility to have a similar financial profile to its other sites in its drug substance segment,"

President-elect Trump News:

Associated Press: Trump summons Romney for 2nd look as staffers squabble

<http://bigstory.ap.org/b4b4d5af9dfe4f769816a8df2f1cc5c9>

Donald Trump's hunt for a secretary of state is veering into dramatic terrain, with the president-elect summoning Mitt Romney back for a second look as a top aide leads a public pressure campaign against the pick. Trump has a follow-up meeting Tuesday with the 2012 GOP presidential nominee, who has become a symbol of the internal divisions agitating the transition team. He also plans to sit with Tennessee Sen. Bob Corker, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. On Monday, Trump spent an hour with retired Gen. David Petraeus, a new contender. Aides were divided over Trump's choices, particularly the prospect that Trump could tap Romney for the top-tier diplomatic post. In an unusual public airing of internal machinations, Trump senior adviser Kellyanne Conway on Sunday warned that the president-elect's supporters would feel "betrayed" if he tapped Romney as secretary of state.

Associated Press: Trump picks Price as HHS secretary; Democrats blast choice

<http://bigstory.ap.org/e601d8c312f141d3a0f7c9ba037089d3>

President-elect Donald Trump has selected Georgia Rep. Tom Price, a leading critic of President Barack Obama's sweeping health care law, to head the Department of Health and Human Services. A key Senate Democrat immediately criticized the choice. If confirmed by the Senate, Price would play a central role in Republican efforts to repeal and replace the current health care law. Trump has pledged to move quickly on overhauling the landmark measure, but has been vague about what he hopes to see in a replacement bill. Also, Seema Verma was picked to become administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The president-elect has said he favors keeping provisions that allow young people to stay on their parents' health insurance and which prevent insurance companies from denying coverage to those with pre-existing conditions. Replacing President Barack Obama's health care law is "one of the things he's going to lead the charge on as secretary of HHS," said Jason Miller, a Trump transition team spokesman.

National News:

Associated Press: Ohio State attack: Terrorism eyed as police seek more info

<http://bigstory.ap.org/b82b2dd0debd4187bbedb8ec5dc7dd3b>

Investigators are looking into whether a car-and-knife attack at Ohio State University that injured 11 people was an act of terror by a Somali-born student who had once criticized the media for its portrayal of Muslims. The attacker, identified as Abdul Razak Ali Artan, plowed his car into a group of pedestrians on campus shortly before 10 a.m. Monday, and then got out and began stabbing people with a butcher knife before he was shot to death by a campus police officer, authorities said. A motive was not immediately known, but police said they were investigating whether it was a terrorist attack. Artan was born in Somalia and was a legal permanent U.S. resident, according to a U.S. official who was not authorized to discuss the case and spoke on the condition of anonymity. The FBI joined the investigation. Ohio State University police Chief Craig Stone said Artan deliberately drove his small gray Honda over a curb outside an engineering classroom building and then began knifing people. Officer Alan Horujko, 28, who was nearby because of a gas leak arrived on the scene and shot the driver in less than a minute, Stone said.

Associated Press: Neil Young wants Obama to end 'violence' at pipeline protest

<http://bigstory.ap.org/4e2cd99785764893bcffcc2944287fbb>

Neil Young is calling on President Barack Obama "to step in and end" what he calls the "violence" against protesters demonstrating against an oil pipeline being built in North Dakota on part of an Indian reservation. In an open letter on Facebook posted Monday, the 71-year-old rock star calls the protest at the Standing Rock Indian Reservation "an awakening." He says demonstrators are "standing strong in the face of outrageous, unnecessary and violent aggression." He says law enforcement agencies and the National Guard are "seemingly acting to protect the interests of the Dakota Access Pipeline profiteers" with taxpayer money. Young also chided President-elect Donald Trump, labeling him the "surprise president." The letter is signed by Young and his girlfriend, actress Daryl Hannah. Young included a video of him singing against the backdrop of the protest camp.

World News:

Associated Press: Brazilian soccer team's plane crashes in Colombia; 76 dead

<http://bigstory.ap.org/afa4c77206294384991e4f53c7e93680>

A chartered plane carrying a Brazilian first division soccer team crashed outside Medellin while on its way to the finals of a regional tournament, killing 76 people, Colombian officials said Tuesday. Six people initially survived, but one of them later died in a hospital. The British Aerospace 146 short-haul plane, operated by a charter airline named LaMia, declared an emergency and lost radar contact just before 10 p.m. Monday (0300 GMT) because of an electrical failure, aviation authorities said. The aircraft, which had departed from Santa Cruz, Bolivia, was transporting the Chapecoense soccer team from southern Brazil for the first leg Wednesday of a two-game Copa Sudamericana final against Atletico Nacional of Medellin. "What was supposed to be a celebration has turned into a tragedy," Medellin Mayor Federico Gutierrez said from the search and rescue command center.

Associated Press: The Latest: Real Madrid, Barcelona honor crash victims

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d5f182eb6766428bbb6913e1f9b5204e>

Barcelona and Real Madrid have held a minute of silence before their practice sessions in honor of the victims of the plane crash involving Brazilian club Chapecoense. Real Madrid also released a statement expressing its "condolences to relatives and friends of the victims" and "wishing an early recovery for the survivors." Atletico Madrid used Twitter to send its condolences to the victims' relatives. One of Chapecoense's players on the plane was midfielder Cleber Santana, who played for Atletico from 2007-10.

Associated Press: AP Interview: Iraqi leader predicts IS collapse in Mosul

<http://bigstory.ap.org/50dbe2848cc8411f8d60d0bbae377e78>

Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi says Islamic State group fighters lack the courage to put up long-term resistance in Mosul, despite unleashing hundreds of car bombs that have killed and maimed Iraqi soldiers and civilians as the fight for Iraq's second-largest city appears set to extend well into next year. "We have seen the whole organization collapsing in terms of standing in the face of our own armed forces," al-Abadi said. "The success of liberating a huge area indicates that Daesh does not have the gut now or the motivation to fight as they were doing before," he added, using the Arabic acronym for the extremist group. In an interview Monday with The Associated Press, al-Abadi said Mosul was now completely encircled and that the speed with which the area was secured surpassed his expectations. He declined to say how many Iraqi troops have been killed since the operation began six weeks ago but said the rate of battlefield losses was "sustainable."

Associated Press: S. Korean leader offers conditional resignation amid scandal

<http://bigstory.ap.org/6189a3dd71af4d89a2238dfe3e5cfa4e>

South Korean President Park Geun-hye said Tuesday that she'll resign — if parliament arranges the technical details — in her latest attempt to fend off impeachment efforts and massive street protests amid prosecution claims that a corrupt confidante wielded government power from the shadows. Opponents immediately called Park's conditional resignation offer a stalling tactic, and analysts said

her steadfast denial that she has done anything wrong could embolden her enemies. The country's largest opposition party, the Minjoo Party, said it would not let Park's "ploy to avoid impeachment" interfere with a planned vote on impeachment that could take place this Friday or the next. Park, who did not take questions from reporters after her live address to the nation, said she will "leave the matters about my fate, including the shortening of my presidential term, to be decided by the National Assembly," referring to parliament.

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