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To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Friday, December 2, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: Lt. Gov. McMaster predicts smooth hand-over from Gov. Haley

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

SC State Wire

As he prepares to take over South Carolina's top job, Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster said Friday there is "much work to be done" on the state's crumbling roads, struggling schools and challenged water supplies, but he shied away from offering any concrete solutions. "We will make progress, great progress," McMaster predicted in his first public comments since Gov. Nikki Haley was tapped last week to become President-elect Donald Trump's U.N. ambassador. She must be confirmed to the post by the U.S. Senate. McMaster will assume the governor's role upon Haley's formal resignation. He would serve out the remaining two years of Haley's current term in office. The lieutenant governor said he and Gov. Haley have staff members meeting in order to plan for the change. "When she becomes Ambassador Haley, we will have a very smooth transition," he said. He declined to answer queries about whom he would like to see serve as his lieutenant governor, and avoided answering a question about whether he'd support an increase in the gas tax to help rebuild the state's roads.

The State: SC Lt. Gov. McMaster acts as governor at military meeting

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article118421548.html>

Cassie Cope

S.C. Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster got a taste of acting as governor Friday, hearing from S.C. military base commanders. McMaster told the commanders that he was representing S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley at the meeting, which the governor normally chairs. He added Haley will remain governor until she is confirmed by the U.S. Senate as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. "It is a great day in South Carolina," as she would say if she were here, the Republican lieutenant governor said. McMaster demonstrated his own pride in the Palmetto State as well. "This is the greatest place in the world to be," McMaster said, adding his father used to tell him: "You can always tell where the best places on earth are because that's where all the generals retire to."

Nikki Haley: UN Ambassador News:

Washington Post: Maybe Donald Trump knows exactly what he's doing with these Cabinet picks

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2016/12/02/donald-trump-deserves-more-credit-than-hes-getting-for-his-cabinet-picks/?utm_term=.878578e34a0c

Chris Cillizza

When Donald Trump was elected president three weeks ago, many Democrats -- and even some Republicans -- openly fretted about whom he would pick to be in his Cabinet. Would he appoint only loyalists who affirmed his views? People with zero experience? People no one had ever heard of? With the announcement Thursday of Gen. James Mattis as his pick for secretary of defense, Trump continues to demonstrate that those early worries were way off base. In fact, Trump's Cabinet choices -- and some of his potential choices -- reflect a political savviness that many people haven't been willing to grant the president-elect. Let's break it down. Trump has, without doubt, installed a handful of trusted allies in both senior staff roles and Cabinet positions. Choosing Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-Ala.) for attorney general is one obvious example. But, whether or not you agree with Sessions's

views -- and Democrats don't -- he's not someone whose résumé suggests he couldn't do the job. He's been in the Senate since 1996 and before that was a U.S. attorney and was nominated for a federal judgeship by President Ronald Reagan in 1985. (Sessions's nomination was scuttled by the Senate due to racially-charged comments he had made in the past.)

NOTE: Then there is the willingness Trump has shown to put former vocal rivals in key slots. The big name there is South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley (R), who is Trump's nominee as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. Haley endorsed Sen. Rubio and then Sen. Ted Cruz during the GOP presidential primaries and repeatedly spoke out against Trump and his comments about women. Cynics note that by naming Haley as U.N. ambassador, Trump elevates Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster, a longtime ally, to the governor's mansion. Sure! But, that's smart politics, too! Trump brings a former rival into a senior position in his administration and rewards a trusted loyalist. Win-win.

NOTE: Still, viewed as of today with Hweitkamp and Manchin potentially in play and Mattis and Haley already picked, it's hard to say that the doomsday predictions for Trump's Cabinet have come true -- or anything close. What we've seen so far is a smart melange of close allies, well-respected establishment types and a few picks with helpful political repercussions for the party Trump now leads. Give credit where credit is due.

Reuters: Obama expresses confidence in incoming U.N. chief Guterres

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-un-whitehouse-idUSKBN13R23Z>

U.S. President Barack Obama on Friday said he was confident that United Nations secretary general-elect Antonio Guterres would be an effective leader of the international organization. "He has an extraordinary reputation," Obama told reporters ahead of his meeting at the White House with Guterres, a former prime minister of Portugal. Noting that Guterres had led multilateral delegations at the highest levels, Obama said he had "great confidence" that Guterres would be able to ensure that the U.N. would be able to operate efficiently and effectively when taking on issues such as climate change and the international refugee crisis. "At a time when those challenges are mounting, having an effective partner in the United Nations secretary general will be critically important," Obama said. Guterres will take over as head of the world body for five years on Jan. 1, 2017. He was Portugal's prime minister from 1995 to 2002 and U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees from 2005 to 2015.

NOTE: He said he was totally committed "to work closely with the United States in the present administration" and "also with the next administration." Trump, who takes office Jan. 20, has named South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, who has relatively little foreign policy experience, as the next U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

General Assembly News:

The State: Soon-to-be Gov. McMaster mum on gas tax, lieutenant governor replacement

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article118441568.html>

Cassie Cope

Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster was silent Friday on whether he would support an increase to the state's gas tax and who should replace him as lieutenant governor. McMaster is expected to rise to the governor's office if the U.S. Senate appoints Gov. Nikki Haley to be ambassador to the United Nations. Who will become lieutenant governor if McMaster ascends to the governor's mansion is unclear. Historically, the president pro tempore of the Senate rises to lieutenant governor, as state law has said in the past. However, some say a 2014 change to the state Constitution enables McMaster to appoint a lieutenant governor. "That's not up to me," McMaster said, adding, "It's up to the law." McMaster would not say how he interprets the law.

Post and Courier: Henry McMaster mum on next lieutenant governor

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/henry-mcmaster-mum-on-next-lieutenant-governor/article_7ce43b6e-b89a-11e6-a5a4-dfe614e3d9bf.html

Maya T. Prabhu

Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster declined to weigh in on who should succeed him once he becomes

governor early next year. "That's not up to me," he said during a meeting of the state's committee on protecting the state's military bases from defense cuts. "It's up to the law." When asked his interpretation of the law, he moved on to the next question. McMaster is poised to become governor early next year because of President-elect Donald Trump's nomination of Gov. Nikki Haley to become the next U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. But political observers say the state could face a legal crisis as state law is unclear about how the succession would work. According to the state constitution as amended in May 2014, if the lieutenant governor leaves office — by impeachment, death, resignation, disqualification, disability, or removal from the state — the governor is to appoint a second in command to fulfill the rest of the term, with advice and consent from the state Senate.

Independent Mail: Sen. Bryant eyes lieutenant governor's post

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/local/2016/12/02/sen-bryant-eyes-lieutenant-governors-post/94803670/>

Kirk Brown

State Sen. Kevin Bryant is maneuvering to become South Carolina's next lieutenant governor. "I would be honored to serve the people of South Carolina in such a capacity," Bryant said in a text message Friday morning. "I'm humbled to have heard from several members of the South Carolina Senate with positive support." Bryant is a Republican from Anderson who won a fourth Senate term this year. The lieutenant governor's seat could become vacant early next year, as President-elect Donald Trump is expected to nominate South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley to become the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. If she is confirmed by the U.S. Senate, Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster would become the state's governor. Under existing rules, the Senate president pro tempore would then fill the lieutenant governor's seat. The state's lieutenant governor is a part-time position who presides over the Senate and serves as the head of the South Carolina Office on Aging.

Greenville News: Senator prepared to file suit over lieutenant governor succession, constitutional amendment

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/12/02/senator-prepared-file-suit-over-lieutenant-governor-succession-constitutional-amendment/94808116/>

Amanda Coyne

State Sen. Tom Davis is prepared to file suit over the selection process of the next lieutenant governor. If his fellow senators do not unanimously agree on Tuesday to resolve a discrepancy between a constitutional amendment and the way it appeared on voters' ballots in 2012, the Beaufort County Republican will file a petition for original jurisdiction with the South Carolina Supreme Court. In 2012, South Carolina voters chose to elect the governor and lieutenant governor on a joint ticket starting in 2018. Since the 1800s, candidates for governor and lieutenant governor have been elected separately. The new system would ensure that the governor and lieutenant governor were members of the same party. Under the old system, a Republican could be elected governor and a Democrat could be elected lieutenant governor, or vice versa. The constitutional amendment also allows a governor to select his or her own lieutenant governor with the advice and consent of the senate if the position becomes vacant.

The State: Former SC legislator pleads guilty in sexual harassment case

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article118474878.html>

Bristow Marchant

A former state lawmaker has pleaded guilty in a Richland County court room to charges he inappropriately touched a woman in his State House office. Former state Rep. Nelson Hardwick, R-Horry, pleaded guilty Nov. 18 to a charge of third-degree assault and battery. Hardwick resigned his House seat last year amid allegations of sexual harassment. Hardwick, 65, of Surfside Beach, paid a fine of \$300 on the same day of his guilty plea, according to court documents. When various court fees are factored in, Hardwick ended up paying \$747.50 in total, the records show. Hardwick resigned his seat in May 2015, in the middle of his sixth term in the House of Representatives, when the House speaker's office turned information about an alleged incident over to the S.C. Attorney

General's office.

Sun News: Former local state representative pleads guilty in sexual harassment case

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article118456513.html>

Chloe Johnson

Former State Rep. Nelson Hardwick has pleaded guilty to assault and battery in the 3rd degree after an incident in which he sexually harassed a female staffer, according to Richland County court documents. Hardwick, who was indicted in October 2015, pleaded guilty to the charge on Nov. 18. Earlier court documents charging him with official misconduct in office say he "did abuse his position and power over staff of the House of Representatives to lure an employee to his office and inappropriately touch her against her will." He was ordered to pay a fine of \$300 and paid a total of \$747.50, a sum of that fine and other fees, the day of court, according to the documents. Hardwick could not be reached by phone. The office of L. Morgan Martin, the attorney representing Hardwick, told The Sun News he was in court Friday morning.

SC Political News:

McClatchy DC: South Carolina Rep. Mick Mulvaney is heading to New York to meet with Donald Trump

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/article118438008.html>

Vera Bergengruen

Rep. Mick Mulvaney, R-S.C., will be traveling to New York to meet with the president-elect in Trump Tower on Dec. 5, according to Donald Trump's transition spokesman Sean Spicer. In the weeks since the election, Trump has been meeting with a steady stream of lawmakers, businessmen, military leaders and media figures in his 58th floor triplex. His transition team has said that they are all "high quality individuals," and that the president-elect is meeting with some of them in order to listen to their advice. Many others are there for job interviews as Trump picks his cabinet and begins to put together his administration. It is not clear whether Mulvaney will be discussing a role in Trump's administration. The South Carolina Republican is a co-founder of the conservative House Freedom Caucus and a member of the House Financial Services Committee. Unlike many people Trump has called up for meetings, Mulvaney was not an early Trump backer during the campaign. He initially endorsed Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., before stating his support for Trump in June.

Post and Courier: Mulvaney under consideration for role in Trump administration; Templeton also to meet transition team

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/mulvaney-under-consideration-for-role-in-trump-administration-templeton-also/article_c7d94e34-b8a9-11e6-ac6d-a38b92d72081.html

Emma Dumain

U.S. Rep. Mick Mulvaney is in "serious contention" to be the director of the Office of Management and Budget, a source familiar with the South Carolina Republican's interest confirmed to The Post and Courier. Mulvaney's status as a contender surfaced after Donald Trump's transition team announced Friday the congressman will meet with the president-elect Monday in New York. Also, Catherine Templeton, a potential 2018 Republican gubernatorial candidate who led South Carolina's health department under Gov. Nikki Haley, is also scheduled to meet with Trump on Monday. It was not immediately clear if there was a set office she was being considered for. Templeton, of Mount Pleasant, did not immediately return a message seeking comment. Mulvaney and Templeton, if selected, could greatly boost the number of South Carolinians brought into the Trump administration. Haley was chosen last week to be the nominee for U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

The State: Graham praises Trump's defense secretary pick

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article118438248.html>

Bristow Marchant

S.C. Sen. Lindsey Graham praised Donald Trump's announcement of retired Marine Gen. James

“Mad Dog” Mattis as his choice for defense secretary at a “thank you” rally Thursday. “During his decades of service in the Marines, he was widely respected by the troops under his command and his peers in uniform,” Graham said in a statement. “He has real-world experience combined with a keen intellect. General Mattis will provide great leadership to the Department of Defense and President-elect Trump will find his advice to be invaluable.” Trump’s announcement of Mattis came as something of a surprise during a campaign-style rally for the president-elect in Cincinnati, Ohio. The president-elect told the crowd – and the audience watching his first major post-election speech on television – that an official announcement on Mattis was coming Monday, so he asked that they “not tell anyone.” Since Mattis retired from the service less than seven years ago, Congress will have to pass a waiver allowing him to serve in the post, but Graham does not think that will be a problem.

Michael Slagger Case:

Associated Press: The Latest: Slager jury says its deadlocked

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=tZQcocLh
SC State Wire

The judge in the case of a former police officer charged with murdering a black motorist has told jurors - who indicated that they were unable to reach a verdict - to continue to deliberate. Circuit Judge Clifton Newman told the jurors Friday afternoon that they should try again to reach a verdict in the trial of former South Carolina patrolman Michael Slager. The jury had sent the judge a message at 1 p.m. Friday that they wanted to hear the testimony of a man who took cellphone video of Slager shooting black motorist Walter Scott. Shortly after, jurors sent the judge a note saying they could not agree on a verdict. Jurors have already deliberated about 14 hours over three days. Slager is charged in the shooting death of 50-year-old Walter Scott, who was shot five times in the back while running from Slager during a traffic stop in North Charleston last year.

Associated Press: Deliberations enter third day in Slager trial

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=8KVViltw
Bruce Smith and Jeffrey Collins

A jury has begun a third day of deliberations in the murder trial of a South Carolina police officer who was fired from his job after he shot and killed a black man. The killing sparked national outrage after video taken by a witness was circulated online. Michael Slager, who is white, is charged in the death of Walter Scott, a 50-year-old African-American. Scott was shot five times in the back as he fled from Slager after being pulled over in North Charleston on April 4, 2015 for having a broken taillight on his vehicle. By early Friday, the 12-member jury - comprised of 11 white members and one African-American - had deliberated more than 10 hours over three days.

The State: Slager jury says it can't reach a consensus; judge tells them to try harder

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article118429798.html>

The Michael Slager jury said it cannot reach a consensus in the South Carolina police shooting trial that has been heavily followed because of cellphone video of the shooting that stunned the nation. Circuit Judge Clifton Newman did not declare a mistrial. He instructed the jurors, who had heard a month's worth of testimony, to return to deliberations in the case of Slager, the fired North Charleston policeman charged with murder in the shooting death of unarmed black motorist Walter Scott. Newman issued an Allen Charge, asking that the minority in the deliberations try again to see the majority's point of view. The jury deliberated for about 14 hours when it returned to the courtroom at around 1:30 p.m. Friday and told Newman it was hung. Slager, 35, testified he feared for his life when he shot 50-year-old Scott as Scott fled a traffic stop on foot.

Post and Courier: Judge sends Slager trial jury to resume deliberations after note says they can't reach consensus

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/judge-sends-slager-trial-jury-to-resume-deliberations-after-note/article_fd2e9366-b848-11e6-b41b-830f4fe6976f.html

Andrew Knapp

A jury considering the fate of the former North Charleston police officer who shot Walter Scott were at an impasse Friday, but a judge told them to try deliberating one more time. The jurors ate lunch, then indicated in a note to the presiding judge that they were deadlocked. "It is clear that jurors will not be able to come to consensus," Circuit Judge Clifton Newman said in quoting the message. They had also sought to listen to the testimony of Feidin Santana, the man who filmed the white patrolman, Michael Slager, shooting Scott in the back as the black man ran away. But in a follow-up note, they said it wouldn't matter. "If we do listen to this," their note said, "it will not change based on they (sic) juror." Slager huddled with his defense lawyers and talked after the news was aired in the courtroom. The former lawman's loved ones sat quietly in the wooden pews behind him.

Dylann Roof Case:

Associated Press: Dylann Roof's lawyers want back on death penalty case

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Gcj3Q78y

Jeffrey Collins

Defense attorneys dismissed by Charleston church shooting defendant Dylann Roof strongly condemned his decision to represent himself and filed a motion Friday to get back on the case. The lawyers are worried Roof may not present evidence that could sway a jury to spare his life while acting as his own attorney during his federal death penalty trial and that would violate the U.S. Constitution's ban on cruel and unusual punishment. The lawyers said they did not know why Roof wanted to represent himself but added that other defendants in capital cases have fired their lawyers to avoid having embarrassing evidence revealed. The lawyers also suggested that Roof might deliberately sabotage his own defense in order to get the death penalty. "The reliability of the most complicated proceeding known to the criminal law ... cannot be assured with an untrained layperson - in this case, a 22-year-old ninth-grade dropout," the four defense lawyers wrote. Unlike other motions filed since Roof took over his own defense Monday, this request isn't signed by Roof.

Post and Courier: Dylann Roof's former lawyers try to block him from representing himself in death penalty trial

http://www.postandcourier.com/church_shooting/dylann-roof-s-former-lawyers-try-to-block-him-from/article_6ad37ffe-b88e-11e6-a7b1-2702ea41dd73.html

Jennifer Berry Hawes

Dylann Roof's former lawyers are now arguing that the government will violate the accused Emanuel AME Church shooter's constitutional rights if a judge continues to allow him to represent himself in his federal death penalty trial. The filing was made moments after the federal judge overseeing Roof's hate crimes trial admonished the self-avowed white supremacist's former attorneys for pressing to play a more active role, including efforts to present evidence Roof doesn't want put forth. Earlier court filings show that defense lawyers plan to provide evidence of a "mental disease or defect or any other mental condition." The legal team argues that the Eighth Amendment precludes allowing Roof to continue as his own attorney and block evidence from being introduced that could help spare him from the ultimate punishment. They maintain that the 22-year-old is unprepared to handle the complexities of a death penalty case and that allowing him to proceed would deprive him of his rights to protection against cruel and unusual punishment.

Serial Killer Todd Kohlhepp:

Associated Press: People complained about suspected serial killer years ago

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=MQ2ufpld

Seanna Adcox

People complained to South Carolina's licensing agency about Todd Kohlhepp's threats, grim statements and obscene Facebook posts years before authorities found a woman chained on his property and charged him in seven killings, redacted documents show. The documents provided

Friday to The Associated Press show an unidentified person wrote in 2009 "something MUST be done to stop this crazy man before something dreadful happens." The complaint said Kohlhepp identified himself on Facebook as a real estate agent while posting about sex, revenge and guns. Another 2009 complaint said Kohlhepp threatened to destroy someone. The licensing agency said in a statement those complaints weren't investigated because no alleged violations of real estate law were made. A third complaint in 2014 was investigated and dismissed. The Anderson Independent-Mail first reported the complaints.

Wildfires Across Southeast:

Associated Press: During first look at wildfire rubble, residents in a daze

<http://bigstory.ap.org/ea6a7a223ec14d86b5c5b58783969fcc>

Residents and business owners in Gatlinburg got their first look at the wildfire destruction on Friday, and many walked around the once-bustling tourist city in a daze, sobbing. They hugged each other and promised that they would stay in touch. "We love it up here so much," said Gary Moore, his voice trembling. "We lost everything. But we're alive, thank goodness. Our neighbors are alive, most of them. And we're just so thankful for that." As people were let into the city, a county mayor raised the death toll to 13 and said the number of damaged buildings now approached 1,000. Sevier County Mayor Larry Waters also defended the response to the wildfires that spread rapidly Monday, saying it was not the time for "Monday morning quarterbacking." He promised a full review at a later date. John Matthews of the Sevier County Emergency Management Agency said a text alert telling people to evacuate went out around 9 p.m. Monday. But by that time, wildfires were raging in the area. Matthews said some people did not receive the message due to power outages and loss of cellphone reception.

Associated Press: Extraordinary Smokies wildfire moved fast on path to city

<http://bigstory.ap.org/3de57d1723b242e98937559a414c4854>

The wildfire that popped up on a steep, rugged peak in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park was just one of a dozen that fire crews had been fighting over the last month because of the drought. But the Nov. 23 fire on Chimney Tops proved to be extraordinary — it jumped containment lines and hopped from ridge to ridge on a path to the resort city of Gatlinburg, killing 13 people along the way. In a first look at the origins of the fire, park officials explained to The Associated Press on Thursday how nothing was going to stop this voracious beast from spreading over 16,000 acres in just 24 hours. Inside the park, soot, ash and blackened trees covered the forest floor. The gorgeous vistas of tree-topped mountain ranges were scarred by large areas of blackened soil and trees. Small plumes of smoke smoldered from hot spots. In some areas, the wooden guardrails along the roadway were charred or even gone. The park buzzed with the sound of chain saws as crews from all over the country removed fallen trees and debris. Bark burned right off the trees, exposing the trunks, and large stumps were still hot to the touch.

Greenville News: Drought, threat of wildfires to persist despite rain

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/weather/2016/12/02/drought-threat-wildfires-persist-despite-rain/94806974/>

Eric Connor

The drenching weather that swept tumultuously through the Upstate this week was enough to put a damper on mountain wildfires, but even with rain expected after the weekend, the area remains in a severe drought and fears of more fires remain. The drought outlook has worsened across most of the state — with a twist virtually unthought-of in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew. In a new assessment this week, the state's drought response committee designated the lower part of the state in the earliest of four stages of drought, as two months of extremely dry weather followed the deluge of rain from the hurricane in early October. The areas along the Grand Strand and in the Pee Dee region that were inundated with the worst floodwaters weren't upgraded into any drought status, but the Lowcountry where Matthew made landfall has become dry enough to join the rest of South Carolina

in a state of drought. "It's hard to believe that, in early October, many of these counties received more than 10 inches of rain," said Hope Mizzell, the state Department of Natural Resources' climatologist. "But with no rain since then, they've now slipped into a drought."

Hurricane Matthew Recovery:

Morning News: Final pickup of Hurricane Matthew vegetative debris begins Dec. 5

http://www.scnw.com/news/hurricane_matthew/article_a13f1e28-b8a6-11e6-9717-1f4e7d9beed7.html

The South Carolina Department of Transportation will make the final pickup of vegetative debris (trees, tree limbs, tree stumps) generated by Hurricane Matthew starting Monday on state routes in 17 counties, including Florence, Darlington, Dillon, Marion, Marlboro and Williamsburg counties. Debris that will be picked up in Florence County includes county roads but excludes all routes within the city of Florence. Debris that will be picked up in Marion County includes county roads and streets within the city of Marion and town of Mullins. The other counties are Berkeley, Clarendon, Colleton (including local roads within the town of Edisto Beach), Dorchester (including county roads), Georgetown (including county roads and city of Georgetown roads), Hampton, Horry (excludes state roads within the cities of Conway, Loris, Myrtle Beach and North Myrtle Beach and the town of Surfside Beach), Jasper, Lee (including county roads), Orangeburg (excludes state roads within the city of Orangeburg) and Sumter (including county roads and the city of Sumter roads).

The State: 5,000 cars damaged by Hurricane Matthew up for auction

<http://www.thestate.com/news/nation-world/national/article118403643.html>

In a parking lot packed like Christmas at the mall, more than 5,000 cars wrecked by Hurricane Matthew wait for a bargain-hunter's eye: a Hummer with silt on the dashboard, a Chevy Impala with mold spots on the steering wheel and a Toyota RAV4 muddy from the tires to the roof rack. Each car sits marked with a yellow line drawn across the side, showing how high the rivers and swamps climbed up the doorway after Matthew roared across the state in October. On a Cadillac Fleetwood limousine, its lug nuts orange with rust, that line reaches halfway to the window. Gathered in one spot, this fleet of ruined vehicles offers a stark picture of the storm's reach. Each one of them – the Ford Taurus with Betty Boop seat covers, the Toyota Camry with the surf shop bumper sticker – left somebody stranded. Now all of them are up for auction, if only for parts or salvage.

Island Packet: Beaufort County still has decades-old flood maps. Here's why it matters

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article118501968.html>

Kelly Meyerhoffer

State and federal authorities have failed to update Beaufort County's flood maps — which are more than 20 years old — despite the fact that funding for the project has been secured for over a decade, an investigation by The Island Packet and The Beaufort Gazette has found. Beaufort and Jasper counties are the only two counties in South Carolina that haven't even received a preliminary map from the S.C. Department of Natural Resources, according to a federal map database, even though Beaufort County leads statewide in the number of flood insurance policies. More than 50,000 property owners in Beaufort County — half on Hilton Head Island alone — have a policy, Federal Emergency Management Agency data shows.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: United Airlines will pay \$2.4 million to settle with SEC

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

SC State Wire

The parent company of United Airlines will pay \$2.4 million to settle civil charges by securities regulators over flights that were started to help an official who oversaw one of the airline's hub airports. The Securities and Exchange Commission said Friday that shareholders of United

Continental Holdings Inc. paid for a money-losing flight that the airline approved only after disregarding its usual process for evaluating routes. United operated the route briefly between its hub in Newark, New Jersey, and Columbia, South Carolina. David Samson, who was then the chairman of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, lobbied for the flight so he could travel to a home in South Carolina. The SEC said that Continental Airlines had dropped the route before its 2010 merger with United, and another analysis by United showed it would still lose money. But the SEC says that the airline approved the flights anyway to win port authority approval of a hangar project at the Newark airport.

Post and Courier: Columbia flight lands United Airlines \$2.4 million federal fine

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/columbia-flight-lands-united-airlines-million-federal-fine/article_f779768a-b8ce-11e6-b553-6f49a97a1b6c.html

Thad Moore

United Airlines lost almost \$1 million running flights between Columbia and Newark. But federal regulators said Friday that its parent company will pay out millions more to move past the troubled route, which was implicated in a bribery investigation. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission says it is fining United Continental Holdings \$2.4 million fine over the flight, which it launched to win favor with an airport authority chairman who had a weekend home in Aiken. The airline has already paid \$2.25 million to the U.S. Department of Justice to prevent a lawsuit. On Thursday nights, a mostly empty plane would fly from New Jersey to South Carolina. On Sundays, a return flight made the trip back. From 2012 to 2014, the flight lost \$945,000, "including opportunity costs," the SEC says. "United initiated a money-losing flight solely to curry favor with a public official, and failed to reflect in its books and records a fair and accurate depiction of the rationale behind the decision and its projected financial impact," said Andrew Calamari, director of the SEC's New York regional office, in a statement.

Post and Courier: Air France takes delivery of first 787 Dreamliner

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/air-france-takes-delivery-of-first-dreamliner/article_d28ab46a-b8ab-11e6-b074-0f50807e3910.html

David Wren

The latest 787 Dreamliner delivery can claim a trio of milestones: It's the first to go to Air France, the 50th delivered to AerCap and the 500th to roll off Boeing Co.'s production lines. AerCap, the Holland-based aircraft leasing firm, bought the 787-9 and is leasing it to Air France for use on the airline's Paris-to-Cairo route beginning in January. It is the first of a dozen Dreamliners the Air France-KLM Group is leasing from AerCap. The arrival of Air France's first 787-9 is part of the carrier's ongoing renewal of its long-haul fleet. In addition to the leases, Air France-KLM has ordered 18 of the 787-9 model and seven 787-10s, the longest wide-body in the Dreamliner family that will be built exclusively at Boeing's North Charleston campus. "We're proud that Air France will be flying this milestone airplane, which shows they are an industry leader in customer service and passenger innovation," Boeing Vice Chairman Ray Conner said in a statement. "We also congratulate AerCap on its milestone 50th 787 and appreciate their continued confidence in the Dreamliner."

Local News:

Sun News: Judge makes decision on location of second Heather Elvis kidnapping trial

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article118482833.html>

Elizabeth Townsend

The second trial in the kidnapping of Heather Elvis will remain in Georgetown, a judge in Horry County ruled Friday. The judge declined to move the trial of Sidney Moorner, charged in the kidnapping of Elvis, back to Horry County after a change of location earlier this year. Moorner stood trial in June in Horry County, but a jury could not reach a verdict. The state said it will call more witnesses this time around, and expects the trial to last a couple of weeks. Debbi Elvis, Heather Elvis' mother, said the

family felt a mix of emotions and frustration about the mistrial in June. The Elvis family described their days sitting in court as “traumatic” during the trial as they heard testimony and viewed evidence that retraced their daughter’s last known steps. “It’s like reliving a nightmare,” Elvis said of each time she hears details about Heather’s disappearance.

Sun News: Judge denies bond for man accused of killing Aynor teen, Loris man

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article118413988.html>

Elizabeth Townsend

A 22-year-old Conway man, who faces two separate murder charges, will remain behind bars, a magistrate court judge ruled Friday at a bond hearing. Javon Dion Gibbs is charged with murder and kidnapping in the 2013 disappearance of Aynor teen Zachary Malinowski, and was released on \$50,000 bond in July 2015. He faced a magistrate judge Friday morning in connection with the Sept. 27 shooting death of 22-year-old Laquan Johnson, which is unrelated to the Malinowski case. He is also charged with kidnapping and weapon possession in connection with Johnson’s death, which occurred at a Conway-area home, police said. Gibbs nodded and told Judge Aaron Butler “Yes, sir” when asked if he understood his rights at a bond hearing at the J. Reuben Long Detention Center. He is additionally charged with cocaine trafficking, because police said he had bags containing about 40 grams of cocaine when authorities arrested him in connection with Johnson’s murder on Wednesday, according to a police report.

Aiken Standard: Judge grants new date to depose Lakeya Hicks in 2014 Aiken traffic stop lawsuit

http://www.aikenstandard.com/news/judge-grants-new-date-to-depose-lakeya-hicks-in-aiken/article_9b778f2e-b825-11e6-bbec-b382614bf659.html

Maayan Schechter

A judge agreed Friday to withdraw a motion asking the court to drop claims made by Lakeya Hicks in the 2014 traffic stop in Aiken because she has yet to be deposed. Hicks and her husband, Elijah Pontoon, sued the City of Aiken, the Aiken Department of Public Safety, Chief Charles Barranco and four former and current police officers one year ago, alleging both were unconstitutionally searched during a traffic stop on Oct. 2, 2014. In the complaint, Pontoon said two police officers performed a public cavity search of him in broad daylight after Hicks’ vehicle was pulled over for a paper tag on Horry Street, near Richland Avenue. Hicks claimed her breasts were exposed during the search in front of male officers, court records state.

Post and Courier: North Charleston police officer fired for using excessive force

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/north-charleston-police-officer-fired-for-using-excessive-force/article_9fd0ed52-b8bd-11e6-aff1-d75a61c37b45.html

Diane Knich

A North Charleston police officer has been fired for using excessive force, while a former fellow officer awaits a jury’s decision on a murder charge. Officer Leroy Hair was terminated Thursday for violating department policy regarding the use of unnecessary and excessive force during a Nov. 15 altercation with James Terry III, 27, North Charleston Police Chief Eddie Driggers said. Terry’s mug shot revealed bruises to his face and a puffy, black eye. Terry is charged with assault on a police officer, reckless driving, disorderly conduct and driving under suspension second offense. He is held in jail on \$12,205 bond. Hair hadn’t previously violated any other policies during his two years with the the department, Driggers said. Shortly before 11 p.m on the night of the altercation, Hair observed Terry traveling at 76 miles mph in a 35 mph zone. He pulled him over for speeding in a parking lot off Rivers Avenue near Cosgrove Avenue, according to an incident report.

Island Packet: School board’s Orischak joins call for Moss to return \$33K bonus

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article118493988.html>

Rebecca Lurye

A petition asking superintendent Jeff Moss to return thousands of dollars associated with his annual evaluation has gained the backing of one of his bosses. JoAnn Orischak, a Hilton Head Island

representative on the Beaufort County Board of Education and a vocal critic of Moss, has signed the Change.org petition calling for the superintendent to return his annual annuity contribution. Under his contract with the Beaufort County School District, Moss is entitled to a \$33,000 contribution this year, or 15 percent of his \$220,000 salary, because the school board approved his "proficient" evaluation last month. Orischak, who voted against the evaluation along with board member David Striebinger, said she was motivated to support the petition after seeing several residents of her district, southern Hilton Head Island, sign and share it.

The State: Dorms might be allowed to offer less parking as downtown spaces become scarcer

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article118486908.html>

Sarah Ellis

College dorms might not have to have a parking space for every bedroom if Columbia officials go forward with proposed changes to the city's zoning rules. Rather than requiring one space per bedroom, the city could decide to require only a half-space. And for fraternity and sorority houses, the requirement would be reduced to .75 from one per bedroom. A separate proposed change would allow dorms to count off-site parking toward their required spaces as long as there is an adequate transit system that meets certain criteria. The intent of the changes, city zoning staff says, is to "minimize centralized traffic congestion," limit additional parking garages and surface lots in the core of downtown and encourage use of alternative modes of transportation.

Associated Press: Specialized material maker adds 60 jobs in Anderson County

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

SC State Wire

A company that makes specialized materials for the medical and automotive industries is adding 60 jobs as it expands its presence in South Carolina. Ortec Inc. said in a news release that it will spend \$20 million renovating and expanding its location in Anderson County by the second half of 2018. The company also has locations in Greenville County and Pickens County. Ortec was founded in 1980 and works with companies to create the coatings, solutions and other materials needed in several industries, including for automobiles and medical devices.

Independent Mail: Ortec bringing 60 new jobs to Pendleton

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/2016/12/02/pendleton-plant-expansion-bring-new-60-jobs/94800064/>

Nikie Mayo

A company that makes custom polymers is starting new manufacturing operations at its Pendleton plant, a move that will bring 60 jobs and a \$20 million investment to Anderson County. For nearly a decade, Ortec has owned a building on Westinghouse Road. But that building has been used primarily for warehouse space and equipment storage, said Burriss Nelson, Anderson County's economic development director. Ortec's manufacturing work has been focused in Pickens and Greenville counties, where the company has a combined workforce of more than 200 at two separate plants. Those plants have also recently experienced growth. "Ortec has employed less than 10 people at its building in Anderson County over the years," Nelson said. "If I had to guess, it would be three or four people at most. So to have this kind of opportunity is something we have been waiting for." The company's plans in Anderson County will require an overhaul of the existing building in Pendleton to make it ready to house manufacturing operations. According to Ortec's website, the plant has 250,000 square feet of potential manufacturing space.

Post and Courier: Hudson Auto buys tract near Summerville for 2 new dealerships

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/hudson-auto-buys-tract-near-summerville-for-new-dealerships/article_a45f1628-b80e-11e6-8245-8bebc39cba84.html

A new motor mile may be wheeling its way into the Summerville area. Hudson Automotive Group bought 15.4 acres along Interstate 26 for \$4.62 million Thursday from Essex Farms LLC. The site is on Holiday Drive next to Sheep Island Road. David Hudson, owner of the Daniel Island-based auto

dealer, hopes to begin construction on two new dealerships by the middle of next year with plans to open in 2018. Hudson said he could not disclose the brands for the Berkeley County site until after the new year. He expects construction to begin in late spring or early summer of 2017 with an opening by mid- to late 2018. The parcel is on the opposite side of the interstate and a little farther west than a 12-acre tract Baker Motor Co. of Charleston bought in August for \$5.4 million. Owner Tommy Baker has not announced what brand will be at that location in the developing Nexton area.

President-elect Trump News:

Associated Press: Trump to nominate retired Gen. James Mattis to lead Pentagon

<http://bigstory.ap.org/37077a1080354ab590330f4d611301ee>

Breaking once more from presidential custom, Donald Trump is turning to a military man to steer the U.S. military, choosing retired Gen. James Mattis, who will be the first career officer to lead the Pentagon since just after World War II. Mattis, 66, is a Marine Corps general who retired in 2013 after serving as commander of the U.S. Central Command, responsible for directing America's wars in both Iraq and Afghanistan. The president-elect, who has referred to Mattis by his nickname "Mad Dog," made the announcement of his choice for defense secretary at a postelection victory rally Thursday night in Cincinnati. The selection raises questions about increased military influence in a job designed to ensure civilian control of the armed forces. Those traditional concerns revolve around whether a recently retired service member would rely more on military solutions to international problems rather than take a broader, more diplomatic approach. For Mattis to be confirmed, Congress would first have to approve legislation bypassing a law that bars retired military officers from becoming defense secretary within seven years of leaving active duty.

Associated Press: Jobs report shows Trump to inherit solid but uneven economy

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d8a012bfcc994fa8818bbd38b6711d55>

The U.S. jobs report on Friday made one thing clear: President-elect Donald Trump will inherit the same two-track U.S. economy that bedeviled his predecessor. Hiring is solid and the unemployment rate low. But longer-term problems persist — especially a stubbornly high number of men who are out of work and have given up looking. Many are likely frustrated former manufacturing workers who voted for Trump over Hillary Clinton. Employers added 178,000 jobs in November, the government said, extending the longest streak of hiring since World War II. And the unemployment rate sank from 4.9 percent to a nine-year low of 4.6 percent. Yet the jobless rate dropped mainly because many of those out of work gave up on their job hunts and were no longer counted as unemployed. A key challenge for the Trump administration is to extend the benefits of job growth to include many of those who feel left out. The job market's durability will help to some extent. Eventually, low unemployment should compel employers to offer higher pay to attract more workers. That, in turn, could persuade more Americans to resume their job hunts and find work.

Associated Press: Trump backers ask courts to halt or prevent 3 state recounts

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d0b5ceb090e44e34bf0d7665ddd188b4>

President-elect Donald Trump's supporters moved Friday to prevent or halt election recounts in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, involving the courts less than two weeks before the states would have to complete the tasks to meet a federal deadline to certify their election results. The legal actions seeking to block or halt the recounts in three states Trump narrowly won could cause delays that would make them extremely difficult or impossible to complete on time. Even if the recounts happen, though, none would be expected to give Democrat Hillary Clinton enough votes to emerge as the winner. The recounts were requested by Green Party candidate Jill Stein, who says they're necessary to ensure that voting machines weren't hacked, even though there's no evidence that they were. Critics say Stein is simply trying to raise money and her political profile while building a donor database. "Our goal is not to change the result of the election," Stein said in an opinion piece released Thursday. "It is to ensure the integrity and accuracy of the vote."

National News:

Associated Press: US employers add 178K jobs as unemployment sinks to 4.6 pct.

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/d8a012bfcc994fa8818bbd38b6711d55/us-jobless-rate-plunges-46-pct-employers-add-178k-jobs>

The U.S. jobs report on Friday made one thing clear: President-elect Donald Trump will inherit the same two-track U.S. economy that bedeviled his predecessor. Hiring is solid and the unemployment rate low. But longer-term problems persist — especially a stubbornly high number of men who are out of work and have given up looking. Many are likely frustrated former manufacturing workers who voted for Trump over Hillary Clinton. Employers added 178,000 jobs in November, the government said, extending the longest streak of hiring since World War II. And the unemployment rate sank from 4.9 percent to a nine-year low of 4.6 percent. Yet the jobless rate dropped mainly because many of those out of work gave up on their job hunts and were no longer counted as unemployed. A key challenge for the Trump administration is to extend the benefits of job growth to include many of those who feel left out. The job market's durability will help to some extent. Eventually, low unemployment should compel employers to offer higher pay to attract more workers. That, in turn, could persuade more Americans to resume their job hunts and find work.

Associated Press: Chains and branded skin: California kidnap case baffles cops

<http://bigstory.ap.org/36272b5ea08049eab209408c9779eb1f>

Three weeks after Sherri Papini disappeared, the question of whether she was dead or alive was answered when the young mother and wife was spotted waving frantically for help along a California freeway early on Thanksgiving morning. But the mystery over what happened to her during those 22 days just seemed to grow stranger. She was battered and bruised, her hands were chained, her long blond hair had been chopped off, and her flesh had been branded with a threatening message. The 34-year-old Papini told authorities that she had been kidnapped at gunpoint by two women Nov. 2 while she was out for a run near her home. The bizarre turn of events — with many of the most sensational details released not by authorities but by her husband in an exclusive interview with ABC — has baffled police and set social media aflutter, with armchair detectives scouring the internet's darkest corners for clues and others arguing that the case is some kind of twisted hoax, like something out of the movie "Gone Girl." Her husband, Keith Papini, has condemned the rumors as "exhausting and disgusting," and police have said they have no reason to doubt his wife's harrowing account. But they have a multitude of questions, among them: Who are these women? Where did they keep her? Was she selected at random or targeted?

Associated Press: Police hail parents who found, disarmed son at Utah school

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d200e4df3e3c47bea1ee3948c9b401eb>

A Utah mother and father who followed their son to school and pulled a shotgun from his hand after he fired a round into a classroom ceiling likely prevented bloodshed by acting quickly on their intuition and conversations with the boy after they noticed guns were missing from their home, police said Friday. The parents arrived shortly after the boy entered the classroom Thursday in the northern Utah city of Bountiful and fired one round into the ceiling. No one was injured but the blast left a hole the size of a small plate, Bountiful Police Chief Tom Ross said. The boy also pointed the shotgun at his own neck, Ross said. The boy didn't say a word as a teacher and one of 26 students tried to talk him out of firing again, giving his parents a few extra seconds to arrive, Ross said. The mother took the gun out of his hand and the father pulled the boy out of the room and into a hallway, police said. Police Lt. Dave Edwards said the father's talk with his son before he left for school and the mother's instinct that something was wrong motivated them to head to the campus after they discovered the handgun and shotgun were missing.

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