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To:
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Subject: Morning Clips – Tuesday, June 21, 2016

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General Assembly News:

Greenville News: Children's Museum getting \$1 million in state funds after veto overridden

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/06/20/childrens-museum-getting-1-million-state-funds-after-veto-overridden/86135038/>

Amanda Coyne

Legislators overrode Gov. Nikki Haley's veto of \$1 million in state funds for the Children's Museum of the Upstate last week, allowing the money to go to the museum for marketing and updates to disability accommodations. State Rep. Phyllis Henderson, a Greer Republican, said that the funding for the museum showed equality in funding from the state budget, which often gives funds to other museums. Haley vetoed multiple budget lines for museums, but did not strike \$4 million in funding for the International African-American Museum in Charleston. "Every year we see millions of dollars going to Charleston and the Lowcountry. I'm glad to finally see the Upstate getting some money from the budget," said Henderson, who is also a member of the Children's Museum of the Upstate board of directors.

Emanuel AME Anniversary:

Associated Press: Library being dedicated to church shooting victim

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

SC State Wire

A county library in South Carolina is being dedicated in honor of one of the Charleston church shooting victims. Charleston County library officials say a dedication ceremony Tuesday is one of a number of events being held to mark the naming of the St. Andrews branch of the library in honor of Cynthia Graham Hurd. Tuesday would have been her 56th birthday. Hurd worked for the county libraries for 31 years and was manager of the St. Andrews branch when she was killed a year ago along with eight others at Emanuel AME Church. On Saturday, children visiting The John Dart Library branch can receive free books donated by Hurd's brothers and sisters. The Cynthia Graham Hurd Foundation is collecting books and is holding collection drives throughout the month.

Dylann Roof Case:

Associated Press: Hearing may affect trial date in motorist shooting death

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

Bruce Smith

A hearing in a South Carolina court may determine whether two highly publicized trials will begin in Charleston within a week of each other in courtrooms just across the street. A judge holds a hearing Tuesday on the status of the state murder trial of former North Charleston police officer Michael Slager. He's charged in the shooting death last year of black motorist Walter Scott. That trial is now set to begin Oct. 31, just a week before the federal trial of Dylann Roof in the Charleston church

shootings. But Slager's attorney Andy Savage also represents several of the church victims and their families.

Post and Courier: Solicitor lambastes feds for ignoring state's prosecution of Dylann Roof

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160620/PC16/160629945>

Andrew Knapp

Charleston's top prosecutor on Monday said the U.S. Department of Justice and the federal court system have ignored South Carolina's case against Dylann Roof by trying him first and likely putting his victims through two trials. Roof, the accused killer of nine worshippers at Emanuel AME Church, already faced a January death penalty trial in state court when the federal authorities announced they also would seek his execution in their separate case. A judge then heeded defense lawyers' request by setting the federal trial date earlier, in November, meaning Roof would be tried first in a jurisdiction that is historically less likely to execute people.

Orlando Shooting News:

Associated Press: Attorney general visiting Orlando in wake of deadly attack

<http://bigstory.ap.org/8e6bd6cf5b7e4b239579fbeece1d860a>

Eric Tucker and Mike Schneider

Attorney General Loretta Lynch is visiting Orlando to meet with prosecutors, first responders and families of the victims of the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history. The trip Tuesday comes as the Justice Department continues investigating the June 12 massacre at the Pulse nightclub, in which 49 people died and dozens were wounded. Federal investigators who have conducted hundreds of interviews haven't ruled out charges against others in connection with the shooting and say they're still trying to determine why Omar Mateen, who died in a gun battle with police, picked as his target a popular gay nightclub. More clues emerged Monday when the FBI released a partial transcript of phone calls Mateen had with a 911 operator and police crisis negotiators once the shooting got underway. He identified himself as an Islamic soldier, demanded to a crisis negotiator that the U.S. "stop bombing" Syria and Iraq, warned of future violence in the coming days and at one point pledged allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of the Islamic State, the FBI said.

Associated Press: Vulnerable GOP senators side with NRA on gun votes

<http://bigstory.ap.org/2b060755e9124006a44d1145aab6bbf0>

Mary Clare Jalonick

Among the Senate's most vulnerable Republicans, Pennsylvania Sen. Pat Toomey stood firmly with the powerful National Rifle Association on the latest ill-fated attempts at gun control. So did Ohio Sen. Rob Portman and Wisconsin Sen. Ron Johnson. Not so Illinois Sen. Mark Kirk, who represents Chicago where so far this year, more than 1,780 people have been shot, leading to the vast majority of the city's 294 homicides, according to police. Just over four months to the election, and facing pressure from their Democratic opponents, most Republican Senate incumbents opted for consistency despite the political frenzy days after the worst mass shooting in modern American history. A lone gunman, Omar Mateen, killed 49 people and injured 53 at a nightclub in Orlando, Florida, prompting fresh calls for tighter restrictions on weapons. Mateen had been the focus of two terror investigations that were dropped.

SC Political News:

Associated Press: Benghazi panel misses self-imposed deadline to issue report

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=sL72NCe3

Matthew Daly

The House Benghazi Committee missed a self-imposed deadline to issue a report "before summer," the latest setback for a probe that has gone on for more than two years and drawn scorn from Democrats who say its primary goal is to undermine Hillary Clinton's presidential bid. The panel's chairman, Rep. Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., now says "the committee is working overtime to complete the investigation" and will "issue a report as soon as possible." Clinton, who was secretary of state at the time of the deadly 2012 attacks, is expected to be nominated for president at the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia in five weeks. A congressional report on the Sept. 11, 2012 attacks in Libya that killed four Americans, including U.S. ambassador Chris Stevens, is certain to have ramifications for Clinton's White House bid.

Post and Courier: South Carolina's senators vote down universal background checks for gun buyers
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160620/PC1603/160629891>

Emma Dumain

Grasping for some response in the wake of the worst mass shooting in the nation's history, U.S. senators voted Monday on four proposals to prevent guns from landing in the wrong hands. Each proposal, as expected, failed to meet the minimum support needed to advance in the Capitol Hill legislative process. South Carolina's senators, Republicans Lindsey Graham and Tim Scott, joined with the majority of their Republican colleagues by voting down the two provisions offered by Democrats. One of the proposals would have instituted universal background checks for gun purchasers; the other would have banned gun sales to individuals on the terrorist watch and "no fly" lists.

SC Agency News:

The State: Agency alleges 'fraud' by Richland over sales tax
<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article84944892.html>

John Monk

The S.C. Department of Revenue will not transfer to Richland County any more money collected from its penny sales tax program until the county stops engaging in "civil fraud" in connection with the \$1 billion sales tax program, the state agency said Monday in court filings. Richland County has "expended hundreds of thousands of dollars and entered into contracts worth potentially millions of dollars for expenses, that are improper, illegal and beyond the scope of allowable expenses" under the penny sales tax law, the Revenue Department alleged. Richland County had no immediate response.

SC Elections:

Post and Courier: Filing for South Carolina House District 100 to open June 28
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160620/PC16/160629917>

Brenda Rindge

Filing for state House District 100 will reopen at noon June 28, according to the State Election Commission. Former Rep. Eddy Southard, who stepped down in April amid allegations he sexually harassed a female Statehouse page, was the only candidate who had filed to run in the Nov. 8 election. After he withdrew his name from the ballot this month, the State Election Commission said it would reopen filing for the seat. Filing will close at noon July 5. The special primary election will be July 19 and, if necessary, the runoff will be Aug. 2.

Greenville News: Sheriff Loftis defends himself against mailer accusations

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/06/20/greenville-county-sc-sheriff-steve-loftis-challenger-will-lewis/86144542/>

Romando Dixon

Greenville County Sheriff Steve Loftis on Monday responded to what he believes has been dirty campaigning with his strongest comments to date about the challenger to his re-election bid. Will Lewis, his challenger in a runoff next week, paid for a mailer that made allegations about Loftis involving tax evasion, daytime drinking and the selling of a gun. The sheriff said Lewis sent the mailers, distributed the weekend before the primary, in an "attempt to manipulate voters." "The content of the mailers was not only untrue, it was hateful, and aimed to distract from Lewis' record of misconduct," Loftis said at a news conference in downtown Greenville. "He knew this information was false."

Independent Mail: VIDEO: Campbell vows to make changes in solicitor's office

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/campbell-vows-to-make-changes-in-solicitors-office-35bbf2fe-b152-2377-e053-0100007fc1fa-383720611.html>

Nikie Mayo

Trying to gain momentum as he faces a runoff, Rame Campbell spoke forcefully Monday, saying he would change the way the 10th Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office runs and would support an audit of its finances. Campbell, a former assistant solicitor, worked 11 years in the 10th Circuit Anderson County office before resigning a few weeks ago. He and David Wagner, deputy solicitor in the circuit's Oconee County office, will meet in a runoff June 28 to determine who will be the area's next top prosecutor. "We need someone who will prosecute criminals and will be a steward of taxpayers' money," Campbell said Monday evening at a forum hosted by the Anderson County Republican Party. "There needs to be some changes."

Opinion/Editorial:

The State: What the new ethics laws will and won't do for South Carolina

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scope/article84857987.html>

SEN. WES HAYES had two requests for his colleagues on Wednesday: Be kind and courteous to the candidate who had defeated him in the Republican primary less than 24 hours earlier, and pass two ethics bills that would come up for a vote that night. Ethics reform has no better friend at the State House than Mr. Hayes, yet he was one of three senators targeted for defeat last week by a governor who claimed ethics reform was one of her top priorities. So he made a point of saying he was not asking for a victory for the governor. "I'm not particularly concerned about that," the York County Republican said. "But I'm asking to do what's right. We need to pass ethics reform. If you want to do something for me, to send me out on a good note, just pass the ethics reform. It's the right thing to do." Six hours later, the Senate voted unanimously to pass bills allowing an independent body to investigate legislators' compliance with the ethics law and requiring public officials to tell us where they get their income. It was all testament to Sen. Hayes' integrity, the esteem in which his colleagues hold him and, unfortunately, how much ethics reform had been watered down over the four years it has been claimed as a priority by Gov. Nikki Haley, many state senators and most House members.

The State: SC Senate 'shenanigans' killed alimony reform bills

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article84857482.html>

Editorial

Despite progress made in other states on alimony reform in 2016, a group of family court lawyers managed to block reform in South Carolina. While some lawyers want to see fair divorce settlements, others say the system is not broken, presumably because they are lining their own pockets. They opposed bills that would establish clear alimony guidelines and make reasonable divorce mediations possible. These are the lawyers who encourage expensive, protracted lawsuits and clients who go for their ex-spouses' jugular. Divorce does not have to be this way. Honest, hard-working family court lawyers know the system is unfair and provided invaluable input to create a set of alimony-reform bills that were sponsored by Sen. Greg Gregoy, Katrina Shealy and Luke Rankin. The bills are reasonable and do not take discretion away from judges, although opponents make it sound as though they do. All the bills ask for is that permanent alimony no longer be treated as the preferred form of alimony, so the elderly can retire and the middle-aged can help send their children to college. Imagine being married to someone for less than 10 years, but paying your ex-spouse as much as a third of your income for the rest of your life.

Post and Courier: Congress stalls on guns — again

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160621/PC1002/160629896>

Editorial

Determining who is a safe gun purchaser is normally pretty easy, but there are complicated cases that can take time to resolve. The Senate, by voting down several proposals Monday, again failed to recognize that the present three-business-day delay enshrined in federal gun law is simply not enough time to reach a fair and reasoned decision on such cases. The House also appears reluctant to make this overdue change. But the waiting period for gun purchases should be substantially lengthened. Take, for instance, the question of whether the government can deny a gun purchase to a person on its no-fly lists. It is common sense that the government should deny the right to purchase a gun to a suspected terrorist.

Post and Courier: Beachfront management revision draws needed line in the sand

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160621/160629904/beachfront-management-revision-draws-needed-line-in-the-sand>

Editorial

Kiawah Partners' proposal was rejected and their lobbyist "verbally attacked" Rep. Peter McCoy, as reported recently by The Post and Courier's Bo Petersen. McCoy has led the cause of beachfront protection, along with Reps. Bill Herbkersman and Weston Newton, and Sens. Chip Campsen, Marlon Kimpson and John Courson. As the session came to a close, the bill passed unanimously and received Gov. Nikki Haley's signature. As Rep. McCoy pointed out, this legislation sends a strong message that "preserving South Carolina coastal sanctuaries like Captain Sams Spit must remain a priority for the South Carolina Legislature." We can be grateful for, and proud of, the work by the BRC, the members of the General Assembly and the countless activists who saw this critical change through to its positive and necessary conclusion against substantial opposition. Patience, persistence and common sense prevailed.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: SC ranking on children's well-being improves slightly

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

Meg Kinnard

A national report shows the overall well-being of South Carolina's children improved slightly, even as poverty worsens. The Kids Count survey released Tuesday by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the Children's Trust of South Carolina shows the state ranks 41st overall in a child's chance of

succeeding. That's up from 42nd last year and the highest ranking South Carolina's achieved in the report's existence. The annual findings cover a variety of indicators, including economics, education and health. More than one in four South Carolina children lives in poverty, or about 289,000 children. The parents of one in three children lack a secure job. More than 40 percent of children live in single-parent homes. Children's health is the only area where South Carolina shows across-the-board improvement, ranking 37th nationwide.

Post and Courier: South Carolina improves for kids, but still ranks near bottom

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160621/PC16/160629943>

Lauren Sausser

A new report names South Carolina one of the worst states in the country for children. Still, at 41st, the Palmetto State earned its highest ranking ever on the annual Annie E. Casey Foundation's Kids Count list. Last year, South Carolina ranked 42nd. The list considers 16 variables, including the percentage of children without health insurance, the percentage of children who live in single-parent families, the teen birth rate and the percentage of children who live in poverty. Minnesota earned the top spot on the overall list. Mississippi was named the worst. In nine years, South Carolina improved its ranking in every health-related category but lost ground in other areas.

Sun News: USGA apologizes for its handling of Dustin Johnson's U.S. Open ruling

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/sports/golf/article84948562.html>

After a day of reflection, the United States Golf Association joined the rest of the golf world in realizing the error of its ways. The USGA issued a statement late Monday afternoon – i.e. an apology – for the way it handled the assessing of a one-stroke penalty to Dustin Johnson on Sunday in the final round of the U.S. Open. The Coastal Carolina alumnus managed to claim his first major championship by three strokes despite being assessed the one-stroke penalty at the conclusion of play. The USGA has Johnson to thank for playing through the organization's blunder well enough to win by multiple strokes and avoid an embarrassing and full-blown controversy.

Local News:

Aiken Standard: Al Peters was celebrated Aiken resident

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160620/AIK0101/160629944>

Thomas Gardiner

The 87-year life journey of a prominent Aiken man reached its quietus Saturday when Albert H. Peters entered into eternal rest. Peters set a life-long example as a leader beginning as a member of the Corps of Cadets at Clemson Agricultural College where he graduated in 1950. Peters went on to serve as a Captain in the Research and Development Command in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He then returned to his native South Carolina for work at the Dupont Savannah River Plant in 1953. During his shining career at the site, Peters was instrumental in development of the transuranic, synthetic element Californium-252. The heavy metal is still used in nuclear work and nuclear research, commonly as a source to start the reactions in a nuclear reactor. He also was responsible for research at the Savannah River Lab into emergency filtration systems to keep radioactive particles in water and air from reaching workers and the environment in case of an emergency at a reactor.

Post and Courier : North Charleston residents presented draft for citizens board to advise police

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160620/PC16/160629890>

Melissa Boughton

North Charleston residents invited Monday night to what they thought would be a discussion about the formation of a citizens board to advise police officials were surprised to learn a document had already been created that outlined a recommended plan for the board. The community engagement forum began as a presentation of the document, which included the board's mission, purpose,

responsibilities and qualifications for members. Community members were not provided a hard copy of the document but were told if they left their email, one would be sent to them. Walter Atkinson, a community relations expert from the U.S. Department of Justice, assured it was still a work in progress and not a final draft, but people in the crowd were confused and frustrated about the creation of the "working group" he said made the recommendations.

Sun News: Horry officer suing agency could lose his case because he's missing

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article84904052.html>

A former Horry County Police detective who sued the agency claiming he was discriminated against for being a black Muslim may see his case dismissed because court officials can't find him. Daryl Williams lost his job in January 2014, and according to former Police Chief Sandra Rhodes, he is the target of an ongoing investigation by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division. Williams worked for the department for nine years and filed the lawsuit April 23, 2015, claiming he was harassed and faced a hostile work environment because of his race and religion. According to court records, Williams stopped communicating with his lawyer in September and attempts by the court to serve Williams papers through the mail have been unsuccessful.

Herald-Journal: Law enforcement issues most common among Spartanburg County lawsuits

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160620/articles/160629960>

Daniel J. Gross

Law enforcement-related issues were the most common types of lawsuits Spartanburg County has handled within the past five years. Out of the 84 general tort claims closed in Spartanburg County since Jan. 1, 2011, 35 were law enforcement-related. That's 41 percent of the total amount. Lawsuit data obtained from the State Fiscal Accountability Authority through the Freedom of Information Act shows Spartanburg County had a greater percentage of law enforcement-related claims than most other large South Carolina counties. The claims closed within Spartanburg County for all types of actions accounted for more than \$1 million within that timeframe – \$779,114.40 in settlement payouts and another \$474,123.32 in court fees. A huge contributor to this was the \$460,278.27 paid out in settlements from a miniature train derailment in Spartanburg's Cleveland Park in 2011.

Sun News: Sidney Moorer trial: Witnesses think Heather Elvis may have been pregnant

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article84955392.html>

Elizabeth Townsend

A jury was chosen and the trial for Sidney Moorer, charged with kidnapping Heather Elvis, began as three witnesses testified Monday at the Horry County Courthouse. "At its heart, this case is about an affair," said Martin Spratlin, assistant solicitor with the 15th Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office during his opening statement. The affair ended after Tammy Moorer, Sidney's wife who is also charged with kidnapping, found out about it, Spratlin said. "We've got an answer for everything because he didn't do this," said Kirk Truslow, Moorer's attorney, during his opening argument. Sidney Moorer has now been "put in a position to fight for his life," Truslow said. Witnesses testified that Elvis may have been pregnant and that she deeply feared Tammy Moorer.

Greenville News: Defense attorney: Dacusville mother committed 'an insane and senseless act' in killing children

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/06/20/opening-arguments-expected-afternoon-case-dacusville-mom-charged-murdering-children/86145654/>

Ron Barnett

There's no question about who killed Carly and Sawyer Simpson or who tried to kill their father,

Suzanna Brown Simpson's defense attorney told a Pickens County jury Monday. She did it, Public Defender John Mauldin said. But the jury will have to discern, based on the evidence presented at her trial this week, whether she was able to understand right from wrong at the time. Mauldin argued that she didn't. "It was an insane and senseless act," he said during his opening argument. "That's what it was." She has pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity. The children, who were age 7 and 5 at the time of the May 14, 2013 shooting at their home in Dacusville, died on the day after Mother's Day that year, Mauldin noted.

The State: After autistic teen went missing, here's how deputies found him

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article84793747.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

When Diann Henderson's 15-year-old grandson went missing Sunday night, she jumped in the car and started driving – and praying. Her grandson has autism, and a habit of wandering off. "I'm one of those old-fashioned grandmothers, so I'll ride until I find him," Henderson said. When relatives realized the boy was gone, they called the Richland County Sheriff's Department. It took only a few minutes for deputies to track him because of a locator worn around his ankle, as part of Project Lifesaver. Officers found the teenager at a convenience store not far from his home in the 1800 block of Woodsboro Drive off Broad River Road northwest of Columbia. The search took place at about 9:30 p.m., according to the sheriff's department.

Associated Press: 14 dogs rescued from home after owner found dead

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Gm8hZAPE

SC State Wire

Authorities have rescued 14 dogs from a Lowcountry home in which the resident was found dead last week. Beaufort County Animal Control officials tell WJCL-TV (<http://bit.ly/28LJD6U>) that the dogs' owner had been dead for a week and a half before officials discovered the unidentified Yemassee resident's body Wednesday. It is unclear how the owner died. Officials say the dogs, all pit bulls and pit bull mixes, had been neglected prior to their owner's death but do not appear to be aggressive.

Post and Courier: College of Charleston athletic director Joe Hull out when contract expires in December

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160620/PC20/160629937>

Andrew Miller

College of Charleston athletic director Joe Hull, who played a major role in upgrading the program's facilities and moving the school into a new conference, will leave the university when his contract expires at the end of the year. Hull, who has been the college's athletic director for the past nine years, signed a two-year contract extension in November 2014 that is set to expire on Dec. 31. The school's administration decided not to offer Hull another contract extension.

Island Packet: Beaufort High assistant sues, says complaint over N-word led to problems

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article84883627.html>

A Beaufort High School administrative assistant says a complaint she filed four years ago alleging racial discrimination has cost her training opportunities, according to a federal lawsuit filed last week. Lauren Glaze-Washington, a 15-year school employee, alleges the school denied her request to attend a professional staff development training in Myrtle Beach in 2014 out of retaliation for a past complaint, according to the lawsuit, which names superintendent Jeff Moss, the Beaufort County School District and Beaufort High School principal Corey Murphy as defendants. Glaze-Washington filed the suit on June 13 in U.S. District Court after another co-worker, a data specialist, received

approval to attend three days of training in May, the lawsuit states. She filed a grievance for denial of her own training on May 5, but the district's human resources chief denied the request to use the grievance process, and Moss later denied Glaze-Washington's request for an appeal of that decision.

WIS: \$88M Interstate 77 widening project begins

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32255882/88m-interstate-77-widening-project-begins>

Billie Jean Shaw

After three years, a project to widen parts of Interstate 77 is underway. SCDOT crews are preparing for the first step in construction near the Killian Road Bridge. Crews have already begun to put out barriers and signs redirecting traffic on the Killian Road Bridge. Monday night, they started laying down new concrete on the crumbling road. This is just phase one of SCDOT's plan to widen parts of I-77. For the next three weeks, crews will resurface parts of I-77 between Killian and Blythewood Roads. Once that is completed in August, they'll begin adding an additional lane to each side of the interstate, widening it from two lanes to three. People who drive in the area have mixed feelings about the work. "I guess it'll be good for traffic," commuter Brandi Ross said. "That kind of stinks that it will cut down more trees on either side, so it would probably affect the animals in the area."

The State: Large amphitheater, plaza in downtown Lexington taking shape

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article84929057.html>

Tim Flach

It'll take a little longer for a new plaza and amphitheater to make its debut as the new community gathering spot in downtown Lexington. Weather-related delays are pushing back completion of the \$3 million project a few months to early fall, too late to put it into significant use until spring as an entertainment venue, town officials said. The delay allows extra time to develop plans for concerts and other events intended to attract shoppers to the specialty retail hub taking shape, officials said. "We all have broad strokes of what we want to do," Town Administrator Britt Poole said.

Herald-Journal: \$25M runway expansion to improve safety, assist larger aircraft

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160620/articles/160629949>

Alyssa Mulliger

A \$25 million runway expansion project is set to begin next week at Spartanburg Downtown Memorial Airport. Airport director Darwin Simpson said 1.7 million cubic yards of dirt will be moved to extend the existing runway by about 1,700 feet, bringing the total length to nearly 6,000 feet. The project should be underway Monday, he said. Lengthening the runway will help meet Federal Aviation Administration requirements by extending the safety zones by around 1,000 feet and 600 feet on either end of the runway, Simpson said. The safety zones will consist of dirt that is piled and then made level with the existing runway.

Morning News: Hartsville named All-America City, twenty years after first earning the title

http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article_a626efdc-372e-11e6-8c89-bfb4dc83f60c.html

Ardie Arvidson

Exactly 20 years ago this month, the city of Hartsville was designated an All-America City. The honor was repeated on Sunday in Denver, Colorado, when it was one of 10 cities chosen for the distinction. This award is an honor given each year to towns, cities, counties, tribes, neighborhoods and metropolitan regions for outstanding civic accomplishments, according to a release from the city of Hartsville. The National Civic League criteria for winning "include impact, inclusiveness, public engagement and the use of collaborative problem-solving strategies linking the private, public and nonprofit sectors."

WIS: Midlands, SC to receive \$157 million in aid for flood recovery

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32265908/midlands-sc-to-receive-157-million-in-aid-for-flood-recovery>

Charles Molineaux

Flood recovery workers in the Midlands say the federal government is coming through even better than they hoped with aid from last October's floods. The latest federal register, just issued, reveals that the Department of Housing and Urban Development is ready to send almost \$157 million in aid to Richland and Lexington Counties as well as the City of Columbia and the State of South Carolina. The announcement from the feds also lays out extensive rules for applying for that aid. State and local recovery workers said more money is being given to South Carolina than expected. "This is a huge deal," said Rachel Larrett of the Gills Creek Community Relief Foundation. "This is the third thing that normally it's 18 to 24 months before any kind of funding is released or you really know what's going to happen and here we are at less than a year, and we've finally gotten the rules and the playbook so we can start all the steps that need to be completed."

National News:

Associated Press: Will Trump campaign's shake-up salvage bid?

<http://bigstory.ap.org/9baa760d8a144cccb193dd60a6ca763c>

Jill Colvin and Steve Peoples

Donald Trump's decision to fire his embattled campaign manager less than a month before the Republican convention sent a powerful signal to weary GOP leaders that the billionaire businessman recognizes the increasingly dire state of his presidential campaign. Now, his party is looking for him to quickly implement other changes to mount a credible challenge to likely rival Hillary Clinton. Trump's decision to oust Corey Lewandowski aims to put an end to the months of infighting that had roiled his unconventional campaign. And it signals bigger changes are underway. Lewandowski, a constant presence at his boss's side, had long resisted calls for Trump to adopt a more presidential tone and campaign operation, instead insisting the key to victory was to "Let Trump be Trump."

World News:

Associated Press: Boeing says it signs sales agreement with Iran Air

<http://bigstory.ap.org/88dbfcae455047bca605a7d97d7c81b0>

Jon Gambrell and Nasser Karimi

Boeing Co. said Tuesday it signed an agreement with Iran Air "expressing the airline's intent" to buy its aircraft, setting up the biggest business deal between the Islamic Republic and America since the 1979 U.S. Embassy takeover in Tehran. Already, an Iranian official has suggested his country as a whole may purchase \$25 billion in airplanes from Chicago-based Boeing, welcome news to workers on its massive assembly line north of Seattle and company stockholders. However, the long-standing enmity between the U.S. and Iran, as well as other sanctions, still could complicate any agreement — even after last year's nuclear deal.

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