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To:
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Subject: Morning Clips – Monday, December 5, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: Haley opens decorated governor's mansion for Christmas tours

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=FexJio28

SC State Wire

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley is opening the governor's mansion so the public can see the home decorated for Christmas. Haley's open house is from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday. It is free of charge, but Haley is asking guests to bring canned goods to donate to Harvest Hope Food Bank. The Columbia Garden Club has worked for about a week to decorate the governor's mansion with three live Christmas trees from South Carolina farms and poinsettias grown by the Future Farmers of America from Lexington Technology Center. Also on display will be a gingerbread house made by the mansion's chefs. The garden club has been decorating the governor's mansion since 1981.

Fox Carolina: Gov. Nikki Haley asks SC to give back during the holidays

<http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/33865240/gov-nikki-haley-asks-sc-to-give-back-during-the-holidays>

Rachel Cumberbatch

The giving season is upon us, and one South Carolina lawmaker is asking residents to think of those in need as they celebrate the holidays. Governor Nikki Haley asked all to consider contributing to the One SC Fund which supports nonprofit organizations providing relief, recovery and rebuilding assistance to those impacted by Hurricane Matthew. Haley, herself, has a lot to be thankful for this holiday season. Just last month, she accepted president-elect Donald Trump's nomination to serve in his administration as UN Ambassador. Governor Haley made her request for residents to give to those in need in a post on her social media accounts, Saturday:

NOTE: Our family loved kicking off the holiday season with the families of South Carolina. We are blessed to live in a state that shows faith, love, respect, and giving all year long. As the years have gone by, some things never change. Nalin was dressed but insisted on wearing his LeBrons.

#PickingAndChoosingMyBattles We loved that Rena came home from college to be a part of this special night. During the season, please consider contributing towards the rebuilding of those effected by the flood and Hurricane Matthew by visiting www.onescfund.org.

org#NeighborsHelpingNeighbors #SCSpirit

SC Delegation News:

Times and Democrat: Mulvaney to push for fewer regulations

http://thetandd.com/business/mulvaney-to-push-for-fewer-regulations/article_8c27cac2-0259-57eb-92a7-7b22d63e4aeb.html

In a visit to SAFE Federal Credit Union, U.S. Rep Mick Mulvaney said that with Republican control of both houses of Congress and an incoming Republican president, "we can start making some changes." Mulvaney, recently re-elected to his fourth term, is a member of the House Financial Services Committee and a high-profile supporter of credit unions. He is helping lead the charge toward repeal of the financial industry regulation known as Dodd-Frank, which many financial institutions consider a burden. Mulvaney visited with SAFE President and CEO Beverly Gagne and other SAFE executives, and promised "a raft of regulatory rollbacks." He said those rollbacks will include recently imposed regulations as well as the power of the controversial Consumer Financial

Protection Bureau. He pointed to the Financial CHOICE Act, the Republican plan to replace Dodd-Frank and promote economic growth, and said the biggest battle will likely be over the Durbin amendment to Dodd-Frank that puts a cap on interchange fees for debit and credit card transactions.

Michael Slagger Case:

Associated Press: Deliberations resume in trial in black motorist's death

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=r0lljhcc

Bruce Smith

Jurors deciding the fate of fired South Carolina patrolman accused of murder in the death of a black motorist are expected to have questions for the judge Monday morning before their deliberations resume. The jury of 11 whites and one black has already discussed the case for 16 hours without reaching a verdict and late Friday appeared to be deadlock before the foreman said he thought they could reach a unanimous verdict. Michael Slager is charged in the shooting death last year of 50-year-old Walter Scott who was shot fleeing a traffic stop in North Charleston. The shooting was captured on cellphone video that was seen widely. Circuit Judge Clifton Newman hasn't said what questions jurors have for him before they can continue their discussions.

Post and Courier: All eyes on jurors as they return for 4th day of deliberations in Michael Slager trial

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/all-eyes-on-jurors-as-they-return-for-th-day/article_b43c72ec-baad-11e6-a6eb-8714ab6ea5f8.html

Andrew Knapp

Twelve jurors will return at 9 a.m. Monday, their fourth day of deliberations in the trial of the former North Charleston police officer who shot Walter Scott. Much national attention, though they might not know it, is focused on them. Last week ended in high drama as they indicated at one point that they were deadlocked with one juror who "needs to leave," then a short time later told a judge that further discussions could yield a unanimous verdict. It was an unexpected turnaround. The jury has three options for deciding former patrolman Michael Slager's fate: convictions on murder or voluntary manslaughter, or an acquittal. The panel already has gone through 18 hours of deliberations without reaching a consensus. Letters from the jury indicated that only one juror refused to find a guilty verdict, concluding that one may never be reached.

Post and Courier: For Michael Slager jury this week, a determination to reach a fitting end

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/for-michael-slager-jury-this-week-a-determination-to-reach/article_ac0e931e-b8f2-11e6-82e6-43f3cbc58034.html

Andrew Knapp

They have worried about the money they were making on jury duty. They have fretted over losing health insurance after being away from their jobs for so long. They have missed trips. They have had car wrecks and family emergencies. For five weeks, they have visited the downtown Charleston courthouse almost every workday. And when they had the chance, the jurors trying to decide a former police officer's future in the wake of Walter Scott's shooting death could have easily given up. They did not. Despite signaling the panel was deadlocked — unable to reach a verdict in former patrolman Michael Slager's murder trial because one member had "issues" and refused to agree on a guilty finding — the jury foreman said they wanted to press on. It was a stunning, bewildering about-face for many who watched.

Dylann Roof Case:

Associated Press: Dylann Roof gets first real test as attorney in hearing

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ZxHWvcu2

Jeffrey Collins

Dylann Roof's first real test acting as his own attorney is coming as he faces off with prosecutors over pretrial motions in his federal death penalty trial over the killing of nine black parishioners at a South

Carolina church. Exactly what will be discussed at Monday's hearing isn't known. Both prosecutors and the defense have filed dozens of motions, most of them sealed and hidden from the public. Roof's request to be his own lawyer was reluctantly granted last week by U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel. Roof asked Sunday that his defense team be allowed back on the case for the guilt phase of his trial. Opening statements are expected to begin after a jury is selected Wednesday. Roof, who's white, is accused of opening fire on black worshippers in a Charleston church in June 2015.

Associated Press: Dylann Roof to judge: Let lawyers back on death penalty case

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

Meg Kinnard

The white man charged with the shooting deaths of nine black parishioners at a South Carolina church asked a judge on Sunday if he could have his defense team back, at least temporarily. In a handwritten request, Dylann Roof asked U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel to bring his defense team back on board for the guilt phase of his federal death penalty trial, which begins this week in Charleston. "I would like to ask if my lawyers can represent me for the guilt phase of the trial only," Roof wrote. "Can you let me have them back for the guilt phase, and then let me represent myself for the sentencing phase of the trial? If you would allow that, then that is what I would like to do." Death penalty cases are split into two parts: the guilt phase, and then a separate portion that focuses on whether or not the defendant will be sentenced to death or life in prison.

The State: Dylann Roof requests his attorneys represent him during guilt phase of trial

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article118818193.html>

Cynthia Roldan

Accused church shooter Dylann Roof requested Sunday that his attorneys represent him through the guilt phase of his death penalty trial. The motion comes just a week after U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel granted Roof a request to represent himself. The guilt phase of the trial is set to begin on Wednesday. "Can you let me have them back for the guilt phase, and then let me represent myself for the sentencing phase of the trial," wrote Roof in a piece of college-ruled paper. "If you would allow that, then that is what I would like to do." Roof requested initially to represent himself through a motion on Nov. 27, and Gergel granted his request on Nov. 28. Gergel repeatedly warned Roof it was "strategically unwise" to represent himself. Roof's former defense team has remained his legal advisers but has sought to play a larger role in his defense, expressing concern last week Roof may not present evidence that could sway a jury to spare his life - something that could violate the U. S. Constitution's ban on cruel and unusual punishment.

Post and Courier: Dylann Roof wants attorneys back until penalty phase of hate crimes trial

http://www.postandcourier.com/church_shooting/dylann-roof-wants-attorneys-back-until-penalty-phase-of-hate/article_526b69d2-ba4a-11e6-b110-8f505f81dd8a.html

Jennifer Berry Hawes

Accused Emanuel AME Church shooter Dylann Roof filed a motion Sunday asking a federal judge to let his defense team represent him again, but only through the guilt phase of his death penalty trial set to begin in three days. After a two-sentence formal motion filed by his advisory lawyers, Roof hand-penned a note to the federal judge overseeing his case. In block letters on lined notebook paper, he wrote: "I would like to ask if my lawyers can represent me for the guilt phase of the trial only. Can you let me have them back for the guilt phase, and then let me represent myself for the sentencing phase of the trial?" If U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel grants the highly unusual request, it would allow Roof's former defense team to take over for opening statements and the portion of the trial when prosecutors must prove Roof's guilt. The defense attorneys already have offered for Roof to plead guilty and serve life in prison without parole, but federal prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for 33 counts including hate crimes.

Serial Killer Todd Kohlhepp:

Independent Mail: Police looking at other alleged crimes connected to disappearance of Kala Brown
<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/local/2016/12/04/police-looking-other-alleged-crimes-connected-disappearance-kala-brown/94973856/>

Nikie Mayo

Anderson Police Chief Jim Stewart said Sunday night that his department is investigating "other alleged criminal activity" that may be connected to the disappearance of Kala Brown and the death of her boyfriend, Charles David Carver. In an interview, Stewart gave that as his reason that the Anderson Police Department is withholding from public view copies of multiple search warrants his agency sought while investigating the couple's disappearance. Stewart declined to say what other potential criminal activity the department is investigating in this case, but said it could involve someone other than Todd Kohlhepp, who has been charged with kidnapping Brown and with killing Carver. "Those search warrants reveal names and information belonging to witnesses in this case, and may reveal identities of suspects who don't even know we are onto them yet," Stewart said. "At this point, we cannot put them out there."

Hurricane Matthew Recovery:

Manning Live: State could spend up to \$64M on Matthew damage

<http://manninglive.com/2016/12/04/state-could-spend-up-to-64m-on-matthew-damage/>

Gov. Nikki Haley is expected to ask for nearly \$64 million in next year's budget to cover the cost of damage caused by Hurricane Matthew in October, her office said Wednesday. The state is expected to pay \$33.5 million for costs incurred by counties and municipalities for debris removal, damage to public infrastructure and emergency procedures, which includes evacuations. The state will have to pay another \$30.4 million to repair damage to state-owned roads. The governor's office said there was about \$341 million in public damage caused by the Category 1 storm which made landfall near McClellanville on Oct. 8. Federal assistance programs require the state to cover 25 percent of that cost. State officials did not know the total cost incurred by private citizens and businesses, and likely won't for several months. Of the nearly 44,000 applications for FEMA individual assistance submitted, a little more than 10,000 applicants have received \$32.6 million in relief.

Post and Courier: Storm towers only hurricane shelter for Lowcountry island slaves

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/storm-towers-only-hurricane-shelter-for-lowcountry-island-slaves/article_713261a4-b653-11e6-a2af-3fc16efb0dd3.html

Bo Petersen

A tiny fortress, it would seem, the brick cylinder with the portal openings like gun casemates. But the slave tower didn't give that much protection. The buildings were the refuge of last resort for rice workers caught in a hurricane on the isolated Lowcountry plantation islands. The towers were strong enough to withstand the winds, but not nearly high enough to survive the surge of seas. Few remain today as anything more than remnants. The towers on the islands near McClellanville were built after the "Great Gale," the Hurricane of 1822, made landfall, killing more than 100 slaves who lived in villages there. There were few early warnings of a tropical cyclone in those days until it loomed on the horizon, too close to escape. The mainland would have been a long row off in wind-roiled seas, and "no telling if they had rowboats," said Jim Lee, Yawkey Wildlife Center outreach coordinator.

Opinion/Editorial:

The Herald: Haley should take a study break

<http://www.heraldonline.com/opinion/editorials/article118823633.html>

The Herald Editorial Board

President-elect Donald Trump reportedly has refused offers from the White House of daily classified intelligence briefings. We hope Gov. Nikki Haley is savvy enough to accept any help she can get in preparing for the challenging post of United Nations ambassador. The Washington Post reports that a team of intelligence analysts has been prepared to deliver daily briefings on global issues and

security threats to Trump during the two weeks since he won. So far, however, he has attended only two briefings. By contrast, Vice President-elect Mike Pence has arranged to attend nearly all of his briefings. We are not certain what type of briefings might be offered to Haley, who has been tapped by Trump to serve as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, but she should take advantage of them and other advice she might receive from seasoned foreign policy professionals. She has a chance now to ease off some of her daily official duties as governor to make time to study up for her new job.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Flight diverts to Charleston when baby born in the air

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

SC State Wire

A Southwest Airlines plane made an emergency landing in Charleston after a baby was born in the middle of the flight. Airline spokeswoman Melissa Ford tells local media outlets that Flight 556 was on its way from Philadelphia to Orlando on Sunday when a woman went into labor. Ford says medical personnel who were on the flight helped with the delivery, and the family was taken to an area hospital when the plane landed. Officials say the flight and the remaining passengers arrived in Orlando just over an hour behind schedule.

Local News:

Associated Press: SC deputies: Stabbing sparked by household chores complaint

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=kei33n0k

SC State Wire

A South Carolina man is accused of stabbing his uncle after he raised a complaint about doing household chores. Multiple media outlets reported that 26-year-old Darnell Lee Angelo Wells of Spartanburg is accused of stabbing his uncle in the head and neck. Deputies said he was taken to the hospital, but his injuries are not considered life-threatening. Spartanburg County Sheriff's deputies say Wells told investigators his uncle came into his room and yelled at him about cleaning up. That sparked an argument that turned physical. Wells was charged with attempted murder and possession of a weapon during a violent crime after the stabbing Saturday night.

Associated Press: Officials: Substitute teacher taped boys to classroom chairs

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=HD5HrY9i

SC State Wire

A South Carolina teacher is facing criminal charges after taping two middle school students to their classroom chairs. Lexington County Sheriff Jay Koon says substitute teacher Janeen Suzette Clark of Irmo faces two counts of cruelty to children after restraining the students at Sandhills Middle School in Gaston. Clark had no listed telephone number and could not be reached for comment Sunday. Investigators say the 26-year-old Clark taped two male students to their desk chairs and bound their hands with tape during the school day on Thursday. Authorities say Clark put tape over the mouth of one of the students and allowed another student to tape the second victim to a chair. Clark was booked into the Lexington County jail early Saturday and released on her own recognizance hours later.

Associated Press: USC fraternity violations at 5-year high despite warnings

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=2Z204NfG

SC State Wire

Fraternities on the University of South Carolina's flagship campus are setting records for misconduct this fall despite earlier warnings about bad behavior. The student societies on the Columbia campus racked up 22 misconduct violations this fall, the most in any semester since the school began keeping track of violations online five years ago, The State newspaper of Columbia reported (<http://bit.ly/2h7JsHp>). The previous mark was 14 incidents in 2011. Almost all of the violations relate

to drinking or hazing. Seven fraternities have been charged in all, three of them with hazing. The university said more students are reporting bad behavior, so infractions are on necessarily on the rise. After years of problems, USC officials were expecting better from fraternities this semester. Campus officials this year discussed fundamentally changing how fraternities meet, recruit and induct potential new members, activities that recently have landed the groups in trouble for alcohol and hazing.

Associated Press: Basketball player at SC college hit by fleeing motorist

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=9Euh7EU0

SC State Wire

A member of a small, South Carolina college's basketball team is dead after being hit by a vehicle along a rural road. Richland County Coroner Gary Watts said 22-year-old Rashee Jamal Hodges of Smoaks died early Sunday. Hodges was standing on the side of a two-lane roadway near Hopkins when he was struck. He died from traumatic injuries. Benedict College sports information director Dennis Switzer confirmed Hodges played basketball at the historically black, liberal arts school in Columbia. Hodges scored three points in 26 minutes of play on Saturday against Kentucky State. The driver whose vehicle hit Hodges left the scene. The South Carolina Highway Patrol is searching for a gold, four-door, Toyota Camry with major damage to the right front bumper, headlight, and side mirror on the passenger side.

The State: Benedict College basketball player killed in hit and run was 'always humble, always listening'

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article118800293.html>

Cynthia Roldan

A Benedict College basketball player killed in a hit-and-run crash strived to see the best in himself and in those around him, his father said Sunday. Rashee Hodges, 22, died from his injuries after the 1:20 a.m. Sunday accident, after a car hit him while he stood on the side of the roadway in the 5400 block of Bluff Road in Hopkins, according to Richland County Coroner Gary Watts. Hodges, of Smoaks, started his collegiate career at the University of South Carolina-Salkehatchie, before Benedict College offered him the opportunity to finish his business degree in Columbia, said Hodges' father, Lamonte Hodges. He was in his junior year at Benedict. Dennis Switzer, Benedict College's sports information director, said Rashee Hodges played 26 minutes in Saturday's basketball game, where the Tigers defeated Kentucky State. He graduated from Colleton County High School, according to a news release from Benedict.

The State: SC elementary school stresses value of every minute in class with new attendance policy

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article118849373.html>

Sarah Ellis

If a school is lucky, it gets to educate a student for about 14 percent of that child's year – 420 minutes per day, 180 days per year. Classroom time is precious. That's why it was so concerning to Logan Elementary School principal Christopher Richards when his students missed 2,350 days and were late to school some 2,800 times last year – an average of nine absences and more than 10 tardies for each student at the 260-student school in downtown Columbia. "It's almost sad. It's like, 'Oh yeah, we've got school.' It's Wednesday, why would we not have school?" Richards said. Disappointed in the amount of class time students were missing, Logan Elementary instituted a new attendance policy this year that it hopes will encourage families to place more value on their students' time in school.

Associated Press: South Carolina coach believes racial slur was used

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=5kpSbDiO

SC State Wire

South Carolina coach Will Muschamp said he believes his players who said that a racial slur was used on the field at Clemson during last week's rivalry game. Muschamp said Sunday that several of

his players told him they heard it and "obviously, there was a racial slur" used in the game. Gamecocks linebacker Bryson Allen-Williams alleged a Clemson offensive lineman used the slur as the teams briefly scuffled during warmups, but was unable to identify who. Clemson coach Dabo Swinney said the next day after his team's 56-7 victory that his players told him it did not happen. "I believe my guys," Swinney said. "That's all there is to say about it." Muschamp was angry his players had to deal with that, but told them to act with class.

The State: Train carrying BMWs derails in Fairfield County

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article118871218.html>

Gary Ward

A Norfolk Southern train transporting new BMW automobiles from the company's Upstate plant to Charleston derailed around 3 p.m. Sunday in Fairfield County, according to Fire Chief Barkley Ramsey of the Lebanon Fire Department. Barkley said 11 cars derailed and 97 BMWs loaded at Greer were damaged. No injuries were reported and no highways were blocked, Barkley said. The accident scene was near the intersection of S.C. 213 and Alston Road, near the Newberry County line, he said. Investigators from several agencies were on the scene and it was expected the tracks would be cleared by sometime Monday, said Barkley.

Post and Courier: Maersk's latest purchase hastens shipping consolidation -- for good or bad

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/maersk-s-latest-purchase-hastens-shipping-consolidation---/article_c99953b6-b7d9-11e6-a6b8-2b1f70df9b8e.html

David Wren

Maersk's bid last week to buy German shipping line Hamburg Sud has prompted at least two divergent reactions: It's either the latest example of a trend that's putting a financial squeeze on port operators worldwide. Or it's another step toward industry consolidation that will let ports operate more efficiently and profitably in the long run. Jim Newsome, president and CEO of the State Ports Authority, prefers the second viewpoint. He thinks shipping line consolidation ultimately will benefit the Port of Charleston. "There will be the same amount of big-ship tonnage but fewer players, and that will make the industry more stable," Newsome said last week. "It's better for ports when we have a stable, profitable industry." U.K.-based maritime industry consultant Drewry takes the opposite view. In a new report, it says fewer lines will have far more leverage over port operators when it comes to lowering terminal handling charges, even as the costs of servicing bigger ships moving through the newly expanded Panama Canal are rising.

Post and Courier: Safran executive: North Charleston expansion aimed at improving relationship with Boeing

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/safran-executive-north-charleston-expansion-aimed-at-improving-relationship-with/article_a4635a06-b7ed-11e6-a766-0fdb6e5b4b2.html

David Wren

French technology conglomerate Safran SA, one of Boeing Co.'s largest suppliers, was among the first to establish a foothold in the North Charleston-based aerospace cluster centered around production of the 787 Dreamliner. Formerly known as Labinal Power Systems, the Safran Electrical & Power division makes all of the Dreamliner's electrical wiring - roughly 65 miles of wiring per plane. Since 2008, its North Charleston workers have taken wire harnesses made at other Safran facilities and sorted them according to their sequential use in the Dreamliner production process. Last week, Safran debuted a \$7 million facility at Palmetto Commerce Park where the wiring division will combine with the company's landing gear operations to provide just-in-time parts deliveries to Boeing's Dreamliner campus a few miles away. The 25,000-square-foot addition will bring Safran's local employment level to 36 jobs.

President-elect Trump News:

Associated Press: Trump taps former campaign rival Carson as housing secretary

<http://bigstory.ap.org/9f312a7447b84cc78a047fdff94bc4>

President-elect Donald Trump, moving to complete formation of his Cabinet and decide other key posts, chose former campaign rival Ben Carson on Monday to be secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Trump's decision, announced by his transition office, comes as the real estate mogul continues a series of interviews, meetings with aides and other deliberations aimed at forming his administration. He announced several Cabinet appointees last week. In a statement, Trump said he was "thrilled to nominate" Carson, describing the retired neurosurgeon as having "a brilliant mind" and saying he "is passionate about strengthening communities and families within those communities." Carson had been coy about joining the new administration, saying shortly after Trump's election victory that he wasn't certain he'd fit into a Cabinet-style role. The discussion at that time centered on speculation that Carson might be selected to head the sprawling Department of Health and Human Services.

Associated Press: Beijing faces decision on how to respond to Trump's tweets

<http://bigstory.ap.org/6c9f89360425421693f00ab453739b2c>

Chinese leaders face a challenge: How to deal with Donald Trump. Weeks before taking office, the incoming American president is riling Beijing with confrontation and online statements that appear to foreshadow a tougher foreign policy toward China. China awoke Monday to sharp criticism posted by Trump on Twitter, days after Beijing responded to his telephone conversation with Taiwan's president by accusing the Taiwanese of playing a "small trick" on Trump. Trump wrote, "Did China ask us if it was OK to devalue their currency (making it hard for our companies to compete), heavily tax our products going into their country (the U.S. doesn't tax them) or to build a massive military complex in the middle of the South China Sea? I don't think so!" That was apparently prompted by China's response to Trump's talk Friday with Tsai Ing-wen, the first time an American president or president-elect is known to have spoken to a Taiwanese leader since the U.S. broke off formal diplomatic relations in 1979.

Associated Press: Michigan to begin recount; legal fight moves to Pennsylvania

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f4c94c2573944852a3b3a05cd26dc8e1>

A judge has ordered a hand recount of Michigan's presidential results to begin by noon Monday, and the Green Party is trying to force a federal court order for a statewide recount in Pennsylvania. Green Party candidate Jill Stein is trying to force recounts in three states. The count is underway in Wisconsin. In Nevada, a partial recount of the race was requested by independent presidential candidate Roque De La Fuente. Judge Mark Goldsmith issued his ruling early Monday that rejected an effort by Michigan state officials to wait two business days before starting to hand-count about 4.8 million ballots. The move increases the chances that the state could complete the count ahead of a Dec. 13 deadline. Stein's lawyers argued that waiting until Wednesday would cut it too close.

National News:

Associated Press: Mourning, memorials amid probe into fatal warehouse fire

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/5ed34c77513b4e3b9521d6ae62d48b2f/site-deadly-oakland-warehouse-fire-artist-space-maze>

The death toll in a late-night dance party fire at a converted Oakland warehouse rose to 24 on Sunday as firefighters dug slowly through the charred remnants of the building in their search for what they expect will be more victims. Crews in Oakland, California, are removing debris "bucket by bucket," Battalion Chief Melinda Dayton said. Firefighters worked through the night in a "mindful, thoughtful and compassionate" way. "This will be a long and arduous process, but we want to make sure we are respecting the victims and their families and firefighter safety," Dayton said, adding that the process is "heartbreaking." Alameda County Sheriff's Sgt. Ray Kelly said Sunday only about 20 percent of the building has been searched. Kelly said officials have notified the families of three of the dead. The search for bodies is expected to continue at least 48 hours.

Associated Press: After major victory, ND pipeline protesters to defy deadline

<http://bigstory.ap.org/e69e91d95cb14561aac01db4110852a7>

Protesters celebrated a major victory in their push to reroute the Dakota Access oil pipeline away from a tribal water source but pledged to remain camped on federal land in North Dakota anyway, despite Monday's government deadline to leave. Hundreds of people at the Oceti Sakowin, or Seven Council Fires, encampment cheered and chanted "mni wichoni" — "water is life" in Lakota Sioux — after the Army Corps of Engineers refused Sunday to grant the company permission to extend the pipeline beneath a Missouri River reservoir. The Standing Rock Sioux tribe and its supporters argue that extending the project beneath Lake Oahe would threaten the tribe's water source and cultural sites. The segment is the last major sticking point for the four-state, \$3.8 billion project. "The whole world is watching," said Miles Allard, a member of the Standing Rock Sioux. "I'm telling all our people to stand up and not to leave until this is over." Despite the deadline, authorities say they won't forcibly remove the protesters.

World News:

Associated Press: UN prosecutors: Mladic 'called the shots' in Bosnian war

<http://bigstory.ap.org/7ba27dea3c0f433daa4dac1b20fb5188>

Gen. Ratko Mladic "called the shots" as his troops murdered and expelled thousands of civilians to carve out an ethnically pure Serb mini-state in Bosnia during the Balkan nation's 1992-95 war, a United Nations prosecutor said Monday as Mladic's genocide trial neared its end. Now, the 74-year-old former Bosnian Serb military chief's lawyers are trying to shift the blame, prosecutor Alan Tieger told a three-judge panel at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia as he began his closing statement. Tieger told judges that defense lawyers are now seeking "to transform Gen. Mladic into a benign but ineffectual officer determined to protect Muslims" against people including the general's former political boss, Radovan Karadzic. To counter that image, Tieger showed a short video clip of a bullish Mladic leading a meeting in a Srebrenica hotel in July 1995, shortly before his troops massacred some 8,000 Muslim men and boys in the enclave.

Associated Press: UN humanitarian aid agency: Record \$22.2B needed in 2017

<http://bigstory.ap.org/b595079f0f254ad5b8264d591d934330>

The U.N.'s humanitarian aid coordination agency says it and partners require a record \$22.2 billion next year to help people hit by conflict and disasters around the world, a 10 percent increase from this year. The appeal announced Monday from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs seeks to help nearly 93 million people in 33 countries — nearly two-thirds of them in Africa. More than one-third of the total appeal — \$8.1 billion — aims to help people in Syria and refugees from it, and another \$4.4 billion would support people inside or fleeing war-torn Yemen and South Sudan. It is the highest amount the agency has ever requested, said OCHA chief Stephen O'Brien. "This is a reflection of a state of humanitarian need in the world not witnessed since the Second World War — more than 128 million people urgently need our support and solidarity to survive and live in safety and dignity," he said. The 93 million among them targeted by the appeal are some of the most desperate, he added.

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