

**From:** MidlandsBiz <acooper=midlandsbiz.com@mail28.wdc01.mcdlv.net>  
**To:** Adams, ChaneyChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov  
**Date:** 12/6/2016 7:03:36 AM  
**Subject:** MidlandsBiz: Fisher Phillips launches new Pay Equity Practice Group; Bank of America Plaza receives Bronze Award as Bike Friendly Business

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## ON THE MOVE IN THE MIDLANDS

### Fisher Phillips launches new Pay Equity Practice Group

Cheryl Behymer, a partner in the Columbia office of national labor and employment law firm Fisher Phillips, will co-chair the firm's newly formed Pay Equity Practice Group, which was launched yesterday. [Read More](#)

### Bank of America Plaza receives Bronze Award as Bike Friendly Business from national bicyclist organization

In a joint initiative between building ownership and Colliers International's real estate management team, Bank of America Plaza has been given the Bronze Award and the designation as a Bike Friendly Business by The League of American Bicyclists, a national bicyclist organization. [See More](#)

### Queenie M. Boyd elected as SCSBA president

Queenie M. Boyd, board member of the Lee County School District Board, was elected as president of the South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA) during the association's annual Delegate Assembly this past Saturday, December 3. [See More](#)

### Bungling the Strategic Planning Process: #1 of the Six Mistakes Smart Leaders Make

By Mike DuBose and Blake DuBose: No one reaches greatness—or stays there—by accident. Success is usually the result of extensive research, deliberation, learning from mistakes, and effort, channeled into a well-thought-out and detailed plan. Business success is no exception. [See More](#)

### Sonoco to invest \$20 million in new Atlanta-area packaging center

Sonoco announced it will invest \$20 million in the development of a new packaging center to support Duracell's new North America battery packaging operation. [See More](#)

### **AMCOL systems receives customer appreciation award**

AMCOL Systems Inc. was recognized at the LISTEN 2016 conference with a Customer Appreciation Award for going above and beyond in their advocacy and support of CallMiner.

[See More](#)

### **Ortec expanding Anderson County operations**

UpstateBizSC: Ortec, a leading biomaterial and polymer technology company, is expanding its existing operations in Anderson County. Complementing recent growth at its facilities in both Pickens and Greenville Counties, the company intends to invest \$20 million and create 60 new jobs in Anderson County. [See More](#)

### **NAI Avant brokers sale of development site for possible automobile dealership**

NAI Avant Director of Retail Services Patrick Palmer, CCIM, recently represented the seller of a development site at the intersection of Killian Road and I-77 across from the Super Walmart in Columbia, SC. [See More](#)

### **The Best Ways To Ground Yourself During Stressful Moments**

Brian Maynor, Style & Business Coach: Stress and the holidays go hand-in-hand, and it's not just when you're around family. [Read More](#)

### **Express Oil Change and Tire Engineers donates \$6,316 to Harvest Hope Food Bank**

Harvest Hope Food Bank received a \$6,316 donation from Express Oil Change and Tire Engineers to help feed the hungry across South Carolina. [See More](#)

### **USA eShop signs exclusive distribution agreement with major BBQ grill manufacturer**

USA eShop LLC, a Columbia based e-commerce company that operates in Europe, recently signed an agreement with MECO Corporation to act as their exclusive distributor for the United Kingdom. [See More](#)

### **Mission accomplished: Palmetto Clean Energy awards grants, exits**

Palmetto Clean Energy (PaCE) announced 23 grants to South Carolina schools and housing facilities, as part of a final round of awards capping the landmark nine-year program. [See More](#)

### **Indian Waters Council receives grant from Dominion Foundation**

The Indian Waters Council, Boy Scouts of America announced a grant award of \$10,000 from the Dominion Foundation to support the integration of technology and environmental education at their Boy Scout Camp Barstow on Lake Murray in Saluda, SC. [See More](#)

### **Opportunities to support critically injured young filmmaker affiliated with the Nickelodeon Theatre**

Jessica Gaitor, known to family and friends as “Jessa,” is a 24-year-old filmmaker and works at the Nickelodeon Theatre as a media educator and assistant theater manager. She was critically injured on Nov. 23, 2016, when she was involved in an accident and was struck by a vehicle while she was walking. [See More](#)

### **Casual for a Cause: Collins & Lacy seeks 2017 Denim Day recipients**

Collins & Lacy, P.C. is reaching out to non-profit organizations in South Carolina to be considered for the firm’s 2017 Denim Day Drive campaign [See More](#)

### **Callison Tighe contributes \$10,000 to Harvest Hope**

Callison Tighe has contributed \$10,000 to Harvest Hope, continuing its commitment to the non-profit organization that helps feed millions of South Carolinians every year. [See More](#)

### **SC Launch company announces milestone growth**

SC Launch Portfolio company, TerraStride announces milestone growth for the company’s HuntStand App. HuntStand has surpassed the one million download mark putting it in the top percentile of both Google Play and iTunes App stores. [See More](#)

### **Gilbert High students entertain second-graders at the fair**

For one day only, the fair came to Gilbert Primary School. Vendors didn't sell funnel cakes or popcorn, but dozens of miniature amusement park rides designed and built by Gilbert High engineering students captured the imagination of GPS second-graders at the November 21 STEM Day. [See More](#)

### **Tickets on sale for Richland One Hall of Fame Gala**

The 13th annual Richland One Hall of Fame Induction Gala will be held Saturday, January 28, 2017 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, 1101 Lincoln Street. This year's theme is "Dare to Dream." [See More](#)

### **2016 Legislative Advocacy Program of the Year Award**

The legislative advocacy efforts of the Fort Mill School District and School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties school boards during the 2016 legislative session have been deemed the best in the state by the South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA). [See More](#)

### **Palmetto Health Children's Hospital welcomes new facility**

#### **dog**

Palmetto Health Children's Hospital, in partnership with Palmetto Animal Assisted Life Services (PAALS), recently welcomed a new team member who specializes in providing a calming experience while motivating children to focus on therapy. [See More](#)

### **Entrepreneur Secrets: Measure everything for higher**

#### **profits**

Jerry Bellune: Remember measure twice and cut once? That's what carpenters do to avoid wasted lumber. [See More](#)

### **Top Grossing Movies – December 5**

Top grossing movies this week. [See More](#)

### **Crafty Feast kicks off holiday shopping season with one-stop market of handmade goods**

Crafty Feast, the Midlands' largest independent craft fair, will kick off the holiday shopping season with its eighth annual, one-stop-shopping market – featuring nearly 100 artisans of handmade and repurposed goods and gifts from across the Southeast – at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center in Columbia, S.C. on Sunday, December 11. [See More](#)

### **36th Annual Economic Outlook Conference**

December 8: Darla Moore School of Business research economists will release their 2017 economic forecast for South Carolina Thursday, Dec. 8 at the 36th Annual Economic Outlook Conference (EOC), at the University of South Carolina's Capstone House. [See More](#)

### **Community Conversations for Edgewood**

December 8: What do you want in a library? Local residents have a chance to weigh in. Richland Library Edgewood is hosting Community [See More](#)

### **What Good Are the Humanities? – a Public Lecture and Reception**

December 14: How do the humanities matter in a chaotic 21st century? That's the question one of the nation's top philosophers and ethics experts will tackle in a public talk Dec. 14 at the University of South Carolina. [See More](#)

### **Events around Columbia and the Midlands**

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

### **Political cartoons from Robert Arai**

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

### **Robert Samuelson: Why Italy matters**

"Italy may be the next stop on the world's journey to more economic nationalism. First we had Brexit — Britain's decision to leave the European Union." [Read More](#)

### **Kathleen Parker: No tears for Fidel**

"Sometimes history doesn't have to wait to judge — and when it comes to dictators, even dead ones, we shouldn't either." [Read More](#)

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