

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
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Governor Nikki Haley News:

The State: EXCLUSIVE: 'Did they all get out?' Gov. Haley reflects on Hurricane Matthew
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article108361642.html>

The night Hurricane Matthew struck South Carolina, Gov. Nikki Haley was sleepless at home – and waiting. “I was watching TV. I couldn’t keep my eyes off it,” Haley recalled Thursday during an exclusive interview with The State newspaper. “I remember Michael saying, ‘You need to get some rest,’ and I turned off the TV, but I didn’t sleep all night. Thinking the rain and wind outside her window was nothing compared with the battering along the coast, Haley said she was hoping the days of planning, emergency conference calls, news conferences and appeals to residents to evacuate would keep people safe. “All I could keep thinking about was: How many people didn’t hear us? Did they all get out? What else could we have done? ... That was the hardest time for me, the waiting.” In South Carolina, Hurricane Matthew initially left more than 800,000 people without power, closed nearly 500 roads and bridges, caused nearly two dozen dams to breach, sent more than 6,000 people to shelters and claimed at least five lives. The cost of the storm has yet to be quantified. Days after Matthew left the state, the storm’s impact is ongoing as the heavy rainfall courses southeast to the Atlantic Ocean, swelling river banks in the Pee Dee and flooding communities. On Thursday, Haley said the state is not out of the woods.

The State: Darius Rucker to play flood benefit show in Columbia Friday
<http://www.thestate.com/entertainment/celebrities/article108299422.html>

Darius Rucker caused a ripple in the Twitterverse Thursday when he tweeted that he would be in Columbia Friday. A fan asked him if he was planning on doing a benefit concert in Charleston for flood relief, and the country star replied, “Columbia tomorrow.” The tweet garnered several dozen favorites and retweets before being deleted. Rucker is in fact performing in Columbia Friday, but it is a private show benefiting One SC Fund, which helps October 2015 flood victims, his publicist said. Gov. Nikki Haley asked Rucker if he would perform, and tickets for the show at Spirit Communications Park Ballroom were sold through corporate sponsorships, his publicist said.

WMBF: Gov. Haley tours damage in Nichols, meets with leaders
<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/33395386/gov-haley-tours-damage-in-nichols-meets-with-leaders>

The Town of Nichols remains heavily impacted by floodwaters and damage left by Hurricane Matthew. South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley paid residents and evacuees a visit Friday. According to a news release, she arrived midday and met with Mayor Lawson Battle, Police Chief Mark Lewis, SLED Chief Mark Keel, Adjutant General Bob Livingston, DNR Director Colonel Alvin Taylor and other local leaders to discuss the Town’s ongoing support needs. After touring damage of the area in a high-water vehicle, she traveled to meet with evacuated Nichols residents at a shelter in Mullins. On her Facebook page, Haley described Nichols as a sweet town having experience loss and devastation. “We saw so much loss and devastation today in Marion County especially in the sweet town of Nichols,” said Governor Nikki Haley. “As we visited evacuees at their shelter we were

overwhelmed by the grace and goodness of the people there even though they have lost all they had. There is a lot of work to be done but we will get them through it.”

WBTW: Governor Haley visits Marion County to talk with flood victims

<http://counton2.com/2016/10/14/governor-haley-visits-marion-county-to-talk-with-flood-victims/>

Governor Nikki Haley spent the day in the Pee Dee Friday looking at the damage and flood waters that still cover Nichols, Mullins, and other areas in Marion County. Haley spent time with people who have been pushed out of their homes because of flooding at the Mullins shelter Latonya Clark has been staying at the shelter this week because her home is now under water. She says Haley being there is a sign of hope. “Our next steps is seeing where we going from here. It’s hard, especially the ones with kids. Even if you don’t have kids, it’s very difficult because we’ve never been through nothing like this. Nichols, it’s gone. What once were our homes, it’s gone now,” said Clark. Crews from FEMA, the American Red Cross, The National Guard, The Marion County Sheriff’s Office were all at the shelter meeting with Haley, and people there say they hope that means they’re on the right track to making plans to rebuild.

WPDE: Governor Nikki Haley visits Nichols amid widespread, severe flooding

<http://wpde.com/news/local/gov-nikki-haley-visits-nichols-amid-widespread-severe-flooding>

Friday afternoon, Governor Nikki Haley visited the town of Nichols in Marion County to gain a better understanding of the terrible flooding that is plaguing so many South Carolinians in the region. On her social media pages, Haley described the scene in Nichols as one of “loss and devastation.” She said she was overwhelmed by the “grace and goodness” of those she encountered on her visit, and praised the ability of so many to endure despite difficult circumstances. Haley also took the time to thank all of the officials in the area for their work. “God bless you. Thank you so much. We appreciate it. Ya’ll be careful,” she said. After her visit, Haley encouraged those who could to help South Carolinians in need by donating to the One SC Relief Fund here.

Hurricane Matthew:

Associated Press : A decade of crop loss from Hurricane Matthew in Haiti

<http://bigstory.ap.org/9a248dd59f83451aa6f932dc2635c71f>

As Hurricane Matthew roared across southwestern Haiti, Joselien Jean-Baptiste huddled with his family while the wind whipped at his little house. When it was finally safe to venture outside at dawn the 60-year-old farmer realized his troubles had only just begun. The storm knocked down part of the house where he lives with his wife and six children outside of Les Cayes, leaving only a small section of corrugated metal still intact. But that was the least of his problems. The field he had worked for 25 years was a scene of violent upheaval. His rice was swamped with river water; the mango and breadfruit trees were split like matchsticks; his corn flattened or torn from the ground by fierce winds. “It is going to take us a long, long time to get back on our feet,” Jean-Baptiste said. Haitian and international agricultural officials say it could be a decade or more before the southwestern peninsula recovers economically from Hurricane Matthew, which struck hard at the rugged region of more than 1 million people that is almost completely dependent on farming and fishing.

Associated Press: Judges extend voter-registration in North Carolina, Georgia

<http://bigstory.ap.org/289df7fb69bf43ed943b54e7447dfc99>

Judges in Georgia and North Carolina on Friday ordered state election officials to extend voter-registration deadlines in some counties due to disruptions caused by Hurricane Matthew, which forced thousands of people to evacuate and temporarily closed some government offices. The judges’

rulings came after Georgia's governor and North Carolina's state board of elections' executive director declined to extend the deadlines. In North Carolina, where the traditional deadline to register was Friday, a state judge ordered election officials to extend it until next Wednesday in 36 eastern counties impacted by massive flooding from the hurricane that left 24 dead. Matthew killed a total of 41 people in the U.S., and more than 500 in Haiti. In Georgia, U.S. District Court Judge William T. Moore Jr. ruled residents of Chatham County, which includes Savannah, must be allowed to register through next Tuesday—a week after the original deadline passed. Powerful winds, heavy rain and flooding from Matthew led to downed trees, building damage and power outages around Chatham County, which has 278,000 residents.

Associated Press: North Carolina governor: Flooded historic town will get help

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=IUQZ7Hyx

Floodwaters as high as some rooflines swamped one of the country's oldest towns chartered by African-Americans, setting up a daunting rebuilding effort for the second time in less than 20 years. On Friday, Gov. Pat McCrory met with Princeville residents and town officials to pledge support after flooding spawned by Hurricane Matthew. The town was also inundated in 1999 after Hurricane Floyd. McCrory said that with water as deep as 10 feet in the town of 2,000 people, at least eight out of 10 houses have been damaged. "I'd say about 80 to 90 percent have definite water to the floors, to the windows, including the mayor's," he said. The governor said National Guard troops have been sent to Princeville to prevent looting. The river has crested, but residents haven't been allowed to return. "The thing that's so disconcerting to me ... is that a lot of these people who lost everything had very little to begin with," he said. "We're going to do everything we can to help them."

Associated Press: The Latest: N. Carolina investigates possible coal ash spill

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ygWR7ixZ

North Carolina officials say Hurricane Matthew has caused erosion at an inactive coal ash basin, and they're investigating whether any has been released. The Department of Environmental Quality issued a news release saying that Duke Energy notified it Friday of the erosion and a "possible coal ash release" at the plant near Goldsboro in Wayne County. The H.F. Lee plant is near the Neuse River, one of the rivers overflowing from torrential rains during Matthew. State investigators are going to the site Saturday to determine if any coal ash spilled. Department spokesman Mike Rusher said he would not speculate as to whether coal ash was discharged until a team can investigate. Rusher said the basin isn't in use and has been covered by soil and trees. A Duke Energy spokeswoman said the company was preparing a statement.

Associated Press: The Latest: NC will extend voter registration in 36 counties

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

A judge has ordered North Carolina election officials to extend the deadline to register to vote in 36 eastern counties of the state because of disruptions caused by Hurricane Matthew. The order Friday came in response to a lawsuit filed by the North Carolina Democratic Party. The party sued State Board of Elections executive director Kim Strach in county court Friday, which is the current deadline for voter registration. A hearing on a request to extend registration to next Wednesday was held Friday afternoon. Strach decided earlier this week to keep the Friday deadline, but told county boards to accept registration applications mailed to them until Wednesday afternoon as long as the applications were dated Friday. The party's attorneys had argued that people should have until Wednesday to turn in their forms in person at county-elections and other government offices. People who decide to vote early will be able to register the same day. Early voting begins Thursday.

Associated Press: Man drowned in Nichols home is 5th hurricane death in SC

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

A man found drowned in his flooded home in hard-hit Nichols is the fifth fatality from Hurricane Matthew in South Carolina. Marion County Coroner Jerry Richardson told The Associated Press that 40-year-old James Tyler refused to leave his home when rescuers warned him two rivers near the town were rising fast last weekend. Richardson says searchers found Tyler's body in his waterlogged living room Thursday. Flooding triggered by the hurricane has killed at least 41 people in the U.S. and more than 500 people in Haiti. The recovery from the storm continues with power crews making more progress. State officials report about 38,000 customers remained without power across South Carolina Friday afternoon.

Associated Press : \$20,000 reward after 200 guns stolen from shop in hurricane

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Wsbdc1iH

Authorities are offering a \$20,000 reward after more than 200 guns were stolen from a Horry County store after thieves struck during Hurricane Matthew. Five Star Gun owner Daniel Huneycutt said on Facebook and in local media that the thieves took advantage of the shop having no power to break in as Hurricane Matthew went through the area last weekend. Huneycutt says a number of display cases were smashed, and guns of all types were taken. A friend checking on the store in Longs reported the break in Sunday. Huneycutt says the thieves also poured bleach everywhere to try to hide their tracks. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is offering a \$10,000 reward, matched by the National Shooting Sports Foundation trade association.

Associated Press: Family of man who drowned in puddle angry at nursing home

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=1wdFcmqW

David Outlaw was a survivor, so much so that his brother can't believe how he died, drowning in a puddle, pinned underneath his wheelchair after being left alone at the height of Hurricane Matthew to smoke outside his South Carolina nursing home. "Even Gov. (Nikki) Haley said everyone needed to be inside," Richard Outlaw told The Associated Press. "My brother survived Vietnam, car crashes and two strokes, just to die in a puddle of water?" Richland County deputies and state nursing home regulators are investigating outlaw's death Oct. 8 at the National Health Care facility in Columbia. A nurse told deputies that Outlaw, 66, refused to come inside, so she left him in a courtyard to smoke. A nurse then came to give Outlaw his medication several minutes later and found him face-down in the puddle around 7:45 a.m., according to a police report. The report did not specify how much water was standing in the courtyard. "How negligent is it to just leave him outside in a hurricane by himself?" Outlaw's wife Karyl said. Richard Outlaw said someone should have at least kept a close eye on his brother if he wouldn't come inside.

Associated Press : Hurricane Matthew leaves North Myrtle Beach vulnerable

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6awzYRYa

North Myrtle Beach officials are planning ways to minimize damage from the next big storm. The Sun News of Myrtle Beach (<http://bit.ly/2dPc9Fh>) reports the city was particularly affected by Hurricane Matthew, as a tornado hit the area and a fire destroyed five homes. George DuRant of the North Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce said a Wednesday estimate of business impact, including damage and lost tourism revenue, amounted to more than \$10 million. Mayor Marilyn Hatley says the city will focus on putting utility lines underground. She says the city's building standards ensured more structures weren't damaged in the storm. Following the massive loss of sand dunes, city spokesman Pat Dowling says the city is hoping to accelerate its beach renourishment plans so the shoreline is not so vulnerable.

Associated Press : Friends come together to clean up after storm

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4hrFlhdl

Family and friends across Orangeburg are working together to clean the mess left after Hurricane Matthew pushed its way through the city. "This was my first time being through something like this and having trees fall," Amber Morgan said Monday. "All I could think and do was pray that it didn't hit the house." Morgan's Broughton Street home saw a total of five trees blown over by the storm. The family's front yard has three tall pine trees that were uprooted and knocked over, leaving large, crater-like holes. Two other trees are across their backyard. They brought their three dogs into the home the night before and said it was incredibly lucky as their three dogs were tied to trees and would have been directly underneath as the other trees came down. "We had God around us," she said. "We had five chances for our house to get hit, that's how I looked at it." Morgan said the first tree fell around 5:30 a.m. Saturday. It crashed into another tree, pushing it until it eventually gave way and knocked into another tree.

Associated Press: Flowers from delayed wedding bring joy to hospital patients

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=IFJrtq44

When Hurricane Matthew disrupted the long-planned Charleston wedding of Andrew Matuskowitz and Elizabeth Gilbert on Oct. 8, the couple set a new date but were left with boxes of 250 fresh flowers. Within two days, their anguish over the delay melted into tears of thanks - and a sort of wedding gift - for them and the patients in a Rock Hill hospital. The flowers were delivered 30 minutes before the couple was forced to evacuate Charleston last Wednesday. They drove to Charlotte to stay with Matuskowitz's sister. Then they wondered what to do with all those flowers. The answer came readily enough. Matuskowitz, 33, is an emergency-room doctor. Gilbert, 34, just finished her doctorate in psychology and starts a new job Monday at a research center on substance abuse disorders. "It would be something good we could do for patients," Gilbert said, "and good for us after something that was kind of sad." Googling local hospitals landed them at the door of Piedmont Medical Center in Rock Hill, which welcomed their gift and sorted the flowers into bouquets.

Associated Press: Hurricane Matthew dog 'refugees' need permanent homes

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

Charlotte-area animal shelter officials are hoping to find new homes for dozens of dogs that were evacuated from a shelter near Charleston, South Carolina as Hurricane Matthew approached. The Charlotte Observer (<http://bit.ly/2dgCv0t>) reports that the 72 canines have been dubbed the "Palmetto Dogs." They were transported Oct. 7 from the H.F. Help Inc. animal rescue shelter in Ladson, South Carolina, to multiple boarding kennels and rescue centers. Dogs Day Out Grooming and Pet Resort in Indian Trail is boarding 44 of the dogs. The other 28 animals have been split between two facilities. Photos of most of the adoptable dogs are featured on the Facebook page of Saved by a Flash, a nonprofit photography organization. The shelters are also seeking volunteers to help with feeding, cleaning and walking the dogs.

The State : 5th SC victim found; Residents could be sharing high ground with fleeing wildlife

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article108346207.html>

Both rising and receding flood waters in the wake of Hurricane Matthew pose hazards to residents along the South Carolina coast, state officials warned Friday. As the majority of coastal residents have returned to their homes and many brace for more flooding as rivers near their crests, state officials sounded a pair of messages: Be wary of wild animals that have moved to higher ground to escape rising rivers and floods, and stay out of bacteria-infested floodwaters. In the southern part of the state,

many hurricane evacuees returned home this week to dirty water and power outages. More than 1,000 property owners on Hilton Head Island will likely be footing bills for water line breaks on their properties. But by Friday, many boil-water advisories had been lifted, and electricity had been restored to all but about 38,000 utility customers. On Hilton Head Island, at least four plantation neighborhoods are unhappy that officials allowed residents to return early this week, expressing safety concerns about sewer problems, lack of power and water-filled and debris-strewn roads.

The State: Ash ponds, hog lagoons and septic tanks have SC residents nervous as river rises

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article108374052.html>

As the Waccamaw River swells this weekend, concerns are rising about potential contamination from a coal ash pond, septic tanks and hog farms that contain potentially harmful bacteria and metals. The Santee Cooper power company was working this week to protect a coal ash pond that is under pressure from the Waccamaw. The ash pond, west of Myrtle Beach, contains at least 660,000 tons of the toxin-riddled ash at Santee Cooper's old Grainger power station. Water is within three feet of the top of a retaining wall around the Grainger site near Conway, said Waccamaw Riverkeeper Emma Gerald Boyer. Soaking rains from Hurricane Matthew last weekend caused the Waccamaw to rise in North Carolina and that water is now working its way down river into South Carolina, where Conway and small communities nearby are flooding. "You never know with this much water; it could affect the integrity of the containment," Boyer said. "Dams will just collapse due to pressure, as opposed to only washing over the top."

The State: Beware of displaced wildlife, and don't hunt in Waccamaw basin, SC DNR says

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article108270717.html>

Hunting will be temporarily banned in the Waccamaw River drainage system in portions of Horry and Georgetown counties, the S.C. Department of Natural Resources announced Friday. High river levels and widespread flooding have displaced many animals from their normal escape routes and confined them to small areas of high ground, making them vulnerable to exploitation by hunters, DNR said in a post on its website Friday. The 10-day hunting ban goes into effect at midnight Saturday and will last through midnight Tuesday, Oct. 25. It applies to all game except for alligators, doves, hogs and coyotes. DNR also warned people to be cautious of animals that have moved to higher ground in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew. It's a natural instinct for wildlife to seek safety and return to their natural habitats as they can, DNR officials said in a news release Friday. But people who spot wildlife should not approach, attempt to feed or attempt to catch the animals, officials warn. "While SCDNR understands and appreciates public concern, we want to assure everyone that the overall fish and wildlife populations are stable and should not experience any long-term negative impacts from this natural disaster," said Emily Cope, deputy director of wildlife and freshwater fisheries for DNR.

The State: Rescuer who crawled on national guardsman's back calls him a 'hero'

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article108320142.html>

South Carolina Army National Guard Sgt. Kevin Westwood said with a laugh that sleeping on a cot after nine days has still not gotten old. "I enjoy them," said Westwood, adding that he wraps himself in a sleeping bag on the cot. "It's actually very comfortable." Westwood has been on call since Oct. 4 as the state prepared for Hurricane Matthew and has been rescuing people from flooded homes since. He still doesn't know when he will get to return to his own abode. Soldiers have been on a continuous 24-hour shift. He and his colleagues have rescued residents from flooded homes from Conway to Florence to Bucksport. The 25-year-old has been deployed overseas in the past, but this is his first hurricane mission. "This was different," Westwood said. "Here you are working with civilians from your country. You want to make sure they're safe." Lifelong Conway resident Trudy Miller is among those

whose safety Westwood has ensured. Miller and her husband, Jerry, went to bed Saturday unfazed by Hurricane Matthew's rainfall.

Post and Courier: Conway braces for impact of rising Waccamaw River

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20161014/161019717/conway-braces-for-impact-of-rising-waccamaw-river>

George Bullock is keeping a close eye on the Waccamaw River right outside his business. The owner of The Cypress Inn in Conway said he expects his small bed and breakfast along the marina to lose about \$10,000 worth of business by the time the overflowing river recedes. "The water came over the marina and it's creeping up into our yard now," he said. "In another 18 inches it will be in our building. I'm hoping it doesn't reach that 18 inches and it may not." "But it's gonna be darn close." As of late Friday, the Waccamaw was at about 16.5 feet and is expected to crest at 17 feet by Tuesday before the water level begins to go back down. That's a massive amount of water since the Waccamaw in Conway is usually below 10 feet. Bullock has not had a guest in his 12-room hotel since Oct. 8 when the cancellations began due to Hurricane Matthew. The street to his inn has been completely covered in water since then and he said it will be another seven to 10 days before things return to normal.

NOTE: Horry and Marion counties have been hit hard in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew, with Gov. Nikki Haley spending time in the tiny, hard-hit flooded town of Nichols, near the North Carolina border, Friday to see the havoc caused there. "We saw so much loss and devastation today in Marion County especially in the sweet town of Nichols," Haley said in a statement on her Facebook page. "As we visited evacuees at their shelter we were overwhelmed by the grace and goodness of the people there even though they have lost all they had."

NOTE: The state's congressional delegation on Friday echoed Haley's sentiments and asked President Barack Obama to grant individual assistance for South Carolinians affected by Hurricane Matthew.

Post and Courier: Power back on for most area customers thanks to Marsh Master, extra crews

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20161014/161019668/power-back-on-for-most-area-customers-thanks-to-marsh-master-extra-crews->

With the Marsh Master in its arsenal, Berkeley Electric Cooperative wasn't afraid to get down in the muck and mud to restore power that Hurricane Matthew knocked out during its sweep along the South Carolina coast. Berkeley Electric rented one of the specialized track vehicles to move personnel into flood-prone areas so they could repair downed utility poles. The investment paid off, with the utility restoring its last hurricane-related outage at about 5 a.m. Friday. All told, Berkeley Electric restored power to 56,532 customers and replaced 137 broken poles in the week after Matthew hit. To put that in perspective, it normally takes two hours to replace one broken pole — or more than 11 days of around-the-clock work for the number Matthew toppled. Berkeley Electric credited the faster-than-expected recovery to extensive preparations and the addition of 257 crew members who came in from five states to help the utility's staff.

Post and Courier: Water Missions sends new water treatment systems to Haiti

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20161014/161019679/water-missions-sends-new-water-treatment-systems-to-haiti>

Water Missions of North Charleston on Friday shipped 10 water purification systems to hurricane-ravaged Haiti. Each unit can provide safe water for up to 4,000 people per day in disaster situations. The 10 systems are in addition to the 22 water treatment systems that Water Missions already had in Haiti, said spokeswoman Sandy Funk. Each system cost about \$30,000 to build, ship and set-up in Haiti. More than 1 million people in Haiti have been displaced or severely affected by Hurricane

Matthew. The country has about 2 million residents, more than 1,000 of whom were killed in the storm. Water Missions is working with Catholic Relief Services and the government of Haiti. "We get a lot of support from our donors in the Charleston area," she said. Water Mission's Latin America program director, David Inman, and two of the organization's professional engineers based in North Charleston are headed to Haiti next week to support the 50 full-time staff working in the country, she said. The safe water treatment systems and storage tanks will be shipped to Miami and then on to Port-au-Prince. They will arrive on Tuesday, she said.

Post and Courier: A dozen state parks remain closed in Matthew's wake

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20161014/161019705/a-dozen-state-parks-remain-closed-in-matthews-wake>

All of South Carolina's state parks should reopen by month's end except for the two that Hurricane Matthew hit hardest: Edisto Beach and Hunting Island, a spokeswoman said. "We're still inspecting the damage and figuring out what to do," said Dawn Dawson-House of the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism. "They're reopening as they can." The agency keeps a website with regular updates on the status of its parks. It reported Charles Towne Landing reopened Friday, though its animal forest remains closed as workers repair damaged habitats. Fifteen state parks suffered some sort of damage from Matthew and closed temporarily. Three of them have since reopened. Because the state's parks increasingly rely on the revenue they bring in, Dawson-House said the agency also is analyzing its business disruption. She said it's too soon to estimate how much revenue loss the parks suffered or how much will be needed to repair damage.

Post and Courier: National Guardsman jumps out of moving truck to save puppy found after Hurricane Matthew

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20161014/161019659/national-guardsman-jumps-out-of-moving-truck-to-save-puppy-found-after-hurricane-matthew>

At first, the soldier did not know what he saw out of the corner of his eye. But there it was again: Something white. Something small. Something that he had to rescue. "It was just my instinct," said South Carolina Army National Guardsman Sgt. Fernando Rodriguez. "It was muscle memory at that point: Get the dog." For nearly two weeks, The Citadel graduate had been doing damage assessments in the small town of Nichols, S.C. with the 178th field artillery and local law enforcement agencies. On Thursday, he was riding in the back of a truck taking pictures to document the wreckage. That's when Rodriguez spotted the 3-month-old puppy. He tapped on the truck a few times and jumped out while the truck was still trying to stop. When it did stop, Rodriguez noticed something. "His tail started wagging," he said. After jumping over a fence, Rodriguez managed to scoop up the dog. His unit started calling the dog "Spot" because of the one black spot surrounding the dog's right eye. The 24-year-old had no idea that the dog he was cradling in his arms would become a new member of his family. He just knew he had to protect him.

Island Packet: Hundreds of Hilton Head property owners likely will pay cost of waterline breaks

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/weather/hurricane/article108310322.html>

More than 1,000 property owners on Hilton Head Island are estimated to have waterline breaks, a cost they likely will be footing. Water and sewer providers on the island say waterlines running from meters to houses or businesses are the property owners' responsibility. "It is your line," Pete Nardi, Hilton Head Public Service District's general manager, said Friday. "You need to call a plumber to have the break fixed." Russ Dubisky, executive director of the South Carolina Insurance Association, said piping outside a home typically is not covered by homeowners' insurance. "You can sometimes purchase a separate insurance for piping underground, but it is offered through your water and sewer

provider," Dubisky said. It's also uncertain if that insurance, even if available, would cover an act-of-God situation such as Hurricane Matthew, he said. None of the water and sewer providers on Hilton Head partners with insurance companies to provide the coverage, service district managers told The Island Packet and The Beaufort Gazette.

Island Packet : Tornadoes reported around Beaufort County during Matthew

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/weather/hurricane/article108318252.html>

Before Hurricane Matthew, Jeff Locker could look out the back door of his Palmetto Hall home and see nothing but trees. Now he sees a golf course. The category storm 2 took down dozens of trees between his Hilton Head Island home and the course. "My property value may have gone up," Locker said on Friday. "Even with all the damage because now I have a course view." The towering pines fell in a clear path behind his Fort Howell Drive home. Some of the treetops appeared to have been chopped clear off by the wind, Locker said. "Anybody who has stopped by has said it was a tornado," Locker said. The Palmetto Hall neighborhood is one of several areas in Beaufort County where residents claim a tornado touched down during the storm, though the reports have not been confirmed by the National Weather Service.

Island Packet: Most of Hunting Island park — but not all — to remain closed through end of 2016

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article108319397.html>

Devastation is everywhere. Trees were toppled. Several of them smashed through public restrooms and the park store. Storm surge obliterated dunes near the campground and destroyed toilets and showers. It will be months before the public again has full access to Hunting Island State Park, one of South Carolina's most popular. "In the meantime, it's heartbreaking to see," said S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism director Duane Parrish, who toured the park Friday with the help of a red Honda all-terrain vehicle. Hunting Island's nature center and fishing pier will reopen with normal hours on Wednesday, even though the end of the pier was damaged in the storm and will be blocked off. And the rest of the park's 5,000 acres of beach and maritime forest will be closed through at least the end of the year as crews restore power, repair septic systems, patch some buildings and, possibly, relocate others. When the park reopens, some visitors probably won't recognize many once-familiar spots, Parrish said.

Island Packet : Beaufort, Jasper county schools set to reopen Monday

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article108214187.html>

Students in Beaufort and Jasper county public schools should return to school Monday after Hurricane Matthew. Power has been restored to all Beaufort County School District schools except Daufuskie Island School, spokesman Jim Foster said. School buses should also be able to run their normal routes by Monday. The Jasper County School District also will reopen Monday, according to a news release. American Red Cross shelters at Battery Creek High School and Bluffton High School are closing Friday in preparation for schools reopening. About 11 people remained at the Battery Creek shelter on Friday morning, and all had somewhere else to go, according to shelter manager Jessica Brain said. The last of the residents at Bluffton High departed before 11 a.m. Friday. Food and water distribution centers at the Hilton Head Island schools complex and at St. Helena Elementary School will remain open until no longer needed, according to a Beaufort County Sheriff's Office news release.

NOTE: It's not clear if or when students will make up the eight days of classes that have been missed since Wednesday, Oct. 5, the day the evacuation order for Beaufort County was issued by Gov. Nikki Haley.

Island Packet: No active sewer overflows on Hilton Head; some boil orders, water restrictions remain
<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/weather/hurricane/article108233802.html>

There are currently no active sewer overflows on Hilton Head Island, but overflows are possible at any point, officials said Friday. Many boil-water orders have been lifted, and most of the island is still being asked to conserve water usage. Here's a breakdown of the current status of water and sewer service on the island.

Island Packet: Last family out of disaster shelter heads home to uncertain future
<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/weather/hurricane/article108241407.html>

A complicated mix of emotions danced across the faces of the Fields family Friday morning as they loaded a van with clothes and supplies from the Red Cross shelter at Battery Creek High School. After being cooped up in the Beaufort shelter since Monday, the family of nine — including three young children and a month-old infant — was looking forward to heading home to St. Helena Island. But how much of home remained, no one knew. The Fields were the last family to leave before the Red Cross shut down its Hurricane Matthew shelters at Battery Creek and Bluffton High schools. Felicia Fields has heard reports from neighbors that the condition of the family home “might not be really that good.” “We are concerned, but we are going to see what’s going on with (the house),” she said. Her niece Jahana Fields said the family “is just worried about all our stuff.” “We have no idea what’s going to be left,” she said.

Island Packet: Lessons from a community that just got blasted
<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/weather/hurricane/article108464092.html>

Hurricane Matthew raked Beaufort County with the power to twist oak trees like shoelaces, destroy marinas and gobble vast chunks of shoreline. Parts of the islands look like a tornado ripped through. We take photographs of giant pines and oaks fallen onto rooftops, sometimes four or more on a single home, only to realize a camera cannot capture its full scope. For decades, we have feared this day. But we spent a lot of those years thinking about it and preparing for it. Our study and experience tells us this was not the big one, not the land-leveler of Hurricanes Hugo or Andrew. The largest dividend of our collective preparation is that no lives were lost here to Hurricane Matthew. As the reality begins to seep in, we need to: Be patient. Be realistic. Be appreciative. Be helpful. Be attentive. Be thankful.

Sun News: An oasis in Matthew’s aftermath, local church hosts relief efforts
<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article108369622.html>

Harvest Church hardly looked like a place of worship on Thursday morning. A small green sign with the name of the church sat out by the road, just off S.C. 9, and a large wooden cross sat at the corner of the building. But everywhere else, people were running and forklifts were beeping as members of this and other churches in the Green Sea area loaded boxes of water, non-perishable food and toiletries into trucks and trailers. Harvest Church is, since Tuesday, the central distribution center for Hearts With Hands, an Asheville, N.C.-based organization that is aiding those flooded out as the waters from Hurricane Matthew swell rivers in northeast South Carolina. “We’ve found the most successful way to help these communities is to go into the local churches,” said Winston Parrish, a field operations director for Hearts With Hands. “Not necessarily any denomination, but any church that has a group of people in need or know people in need.”

Sun News: High water invading some Galivants Ferry residents’ homes after crest
<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article108357982.html>

Lamar Sawyer spent Sunday clearing more than a dozen trees that blocked his driveway on the Pee

Dee Highway that were blown down by Hurricane Matthew, and thought his property had seen the worst of the storm. But when he and his wife returned from Conway on Monday where they stocked up on supplies, they were once again blocked at their driveway – this time, by the Little Pee Dee River. Inside their home, the water was so deep, a kayaker could paddle through the first floor, Sawyer said. The Sawyers had to evacuate, and it wasn't just Mother Nature they had to battle, but also their stubborn little Jack Russell Terrier, Jumper, who was determined to ride out the storm on top of a utility trailer. "I've been here 20 years and I've never seen the water this high," Sawyer said. Days after the river hit a record crest, the front yard and driveway looks like a typical South Carolina swamp, with snakes falling out of the trees and splashing into the water below.

Sun News: Bucksport threatened by converging swamps; Florence dam stabilized

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article108389517.html>

An "at-risk" dam that sends water to the Pee Dee river system has been stabilized, according to the Department of Health and Environmental Control. A spokeswoman for the agency said the Oakdale Dam in Florence County is being monitored and has been reinforced with sandbags and rip rap. On Thursday, Bucksport was evacuated due to flooding, and some residents said they were warned that a dam break would cause problems. Officials on the ground would not comment on flooding, and a DHEC spokeswoman said the dam poses no risk to flooding on the Waccamaw or Pee Dee rivers.

Sun News: Flood waters are potentially stew of bacteria, debris. Officials say stay out!

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article108274597.html>

Floodwaters from Hurricane Matthew are still plaguing some hard-hit areas, and officials say residents should not wade or play in these pools of potentially dangerous debris and bacteria. "With rivers such as the Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches and Waccamaw near or at flood stages, residents are strongly warned to stay out of floodwaters to reduce the risk of infections and illness," said Myra Reece, director of the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's Environmental Affairs in a news release. These waters flow past yards, septic tanks, and industrial sites, gathering waste and bacteria as they stream along, creating a "yucky stew" that also could have dangerous debris as a main ingredient, Robert Yanity, S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control said. Hidden hazards, like wood with nails in it, sharp tree limbs, bacteria, and more often lurk in these waters and while some may be tempted to splash in them, they should definitely resist the urge, health officials said.

Morning News: Closer to normal: Floodwaters recede, more people get power back in Pee Dee

http://www.scnw.com/news/local/article_1b584252-9273-11e6-a56a-7339544ae4cd.html

Water from Hurricane Matthew continues to recede in the northern and central portions of Florence County along with the total number of people without power. Water and power problems remain in the Johnsonville area as water drains down the Lynches River through Johnsonville on its way to the Great Pee Dee River. Sandbagging had stabilized the dam at Lake Oakdale, and it wasn't a current concern for emergency managers, said Andrew Golden, the public information officer with the Florence County Emergency Management Department. He said the Country Club of South Carolina dam that failed early in the week was in a low-impact area and said the dam at Forest Lake was OK and not a concern. Golden said the Lynches River at Effingham dropped below flood stage and the flooding in Johnsonville should diminish as the weekend goes along. As a sign the county was returning to normal Golden said the emergency operations center would be closed for the weekend.

Morning News: Council approves emergency ordinance to help expedite recovery

http://www.scnw.com/news/article_7195798a-923e-11e6-884a-eb8dd7973452.html

The Florence City Council unanimously agreed Friday to pass a temporary emergency ordinance to deal with recovery efforts after Hurricane Matthew. The emergency ordinance allows certain procedures and rules to be temporarily suspended. City Attorney Jim Peterson said the emergency ordinance has a 60-day lifespan but the council could vote to extend it. Peterson said this is the first emergency ordinance the city has passed since he became the city's attorney in 1994. "We realize there were several things that we felt like needed to be suspended in our current ordinances or added to give the city manager and staff the ability to work with folks better in the long-term recovery process," Peterson said. "What we did is review our code of ordinances and try to go through and make sure we weren't going to run into any hurdles that kept us from responding as we needed to respond."

Morning News: An army of linemen

http://www.scnow.com/townnews/food/article_91f7577a-9270-11e6-92f4-ef5286d13b5a.html

Duke Energy has more than 1,000 linemen and other support crews in Florence for the Hurricane Matthew relief effort. Keeping those crews housed, fed, clean and secure might be classified as a Herculean task, but Duke Energy's Larry Medlin and RLI Logistics' James King almost make it look easy. Their efforts are key in supporting the crews – from across the United States and Canada – who leave before daybreak and return after sunset each day and spend their time in the field working to restore power to those left in the dark following the storm. The crew members from Duke Energy and supporting contractors are housed in hotels around Florence, not to mention about 200 who call the upstairs halls of the SiMT home. Every one of them gets breakfast and dinner in the ballroom at the SiMT, lunch, snacks and a cooler of iced down drinks for the day's work and laundry service for up to four outfits. Those living in the SiMT get a Bass Pro Shops' cot, fresh linens every day and hot showers in the parking lot behind the SiMT.

Horry News: What 'neighborhood' really means

http://www.myhorrynews.com/news/local/myrtle_beach/article_19c862ae-9224-11e6-95bb-b7b17a990d2d.html

One historic neighborhood in Myrtle Beach has weathered storms for generations and Hurricane Matthew was no different. Damage in the Booker T. Washington neighborhood in Myrtle Beach varied from house to house, but neighbors helped out whether someone suffered nothing more than broken branches or whether their homes were demolished. When he was asked whether he thought the community could recover, Herbert Riley was optimistic. "I think we can," he said. "The sense of unity I see in people now, where people are really rolling up their sleeves and helping their brother and their sister — I think we're going to come out of it better." Though Riley had suffered almost no damage to his home, he was out making sure people had what they needed. Having surveyed the damage, Riley saw chances to build bridges with people around Myrtle Beach. "This crisis can be changed into an opportunity to better this community," he said. He also thanked government officials like Governor Nikki Haley and Horry County Council Chairman Mark Lazarus for the help that they have given to his community. A few blocks away, Mabel Singleton and a neighbor raked leaves and cleaned up the debris left behind by Matthew.

Bluffton Today: Ready to rebuild: Bluffton moves forward after Hurricane Matthew

<http://www.blufftontoday.com/bluffton-news/2016-10-14/ready-rebuild-bluffton-moves-forward-after-hurricane-matthew>

A few people sat on the floating dock at the Alljoy public boat landing Thursday, fishing the May River. DuBois Park was teeming with families enjoying the clear fall afternoon a couple miles away. In many ways, things were returning to normal in Bluffton almost a week after Hurricane Matthew ripped

through the Lowcountry. But not far from either location, it was evident the town's recovery from the Category 2 storm still was ongoing. Crews were clearing fallen trees and utility poles on Confederate Avenue. Limbs and power lines hung lower than usual throughout the Alljoy community as residents and landscapers cleared yards of debris. Sounds of chainsaws cutting up fallen trees echoed near Bluffton Village. Logs, leaves, branches and Spanish moss piled high on roadsides all over town, sometimes spilling over sidewalks or onto curbs. Another utility pole was being lifted off the ground near the corner of Wharf and Lawrence streets in the Old Town historic district.

NOTE: Beaufort County public and private schools and the University of South Carolina are set to resume classes after closing more than a week ago after Gov. Nikki Haley's evacuation order for coastal areas. Many businesses in were back up and running midweek, not long after Haley lifted the order.

NOTE: Still, by Friday morning the American Red Cross reported that about 25 people were housed at remaining shelters at Hilton Head Island and Battery Creek high schools, while more than 4,000 county residents were waiting for their electricity to be restored.

WIS: Nichols mayor: Matthew flooding has been 'humbling' experience

<http://www.wistv.com/story/33394795/nichols-mayor-matthew-flooding-has-been-humbling-experience>

Some South Carolinians still without a home days after Hurricane Matthew. The town of Nichols in Marion County is still under water. After speaking with the Mayor of Nichols and a state representative from Marion County, they say the water has gone down some, but it's still a disaster zone and they're expecting state help to get through it. Mayor Lawson Battle says he lost everything, has no car, no house, just two changes of clothes, and is sleeping on a friend's couch. But he says state law enforcement, Department of Natural Resources agents, and National Guardsmen have held their hands through it and are at the very least, helping with moral support. He imagines state funding will be necessary once everything dries out. "I've never seen anything close," Battle said. "This has been the most six humbling days of my whole life. I've never seen anything like it on television. You know, it's been humbling. You know, on the state level, the emergency management teams are staying with us. They're holding our hands, helping us through it. Nichols is a very small, close-knit community and we have to have someone like that to help us through it." The National Weather Service says it could be weeks before the waters recede and even more flooding could happen in the Pee Dee region.

WMBF: Businesses step up to help those impacted by Hurricane Matthew

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/33395637/businesses-step-up-to-help-those-impacted-by-hurricane-matthew>

As many hit hard by Hurricane Matthew are looking to rebuild their lives, relief for them has poured in. Since the storm, area businesses are helping provide food, water and other essentials to families in need. The Horry County branch of the Low Country Food Bank said donations by the truckload are coming in to help with relief efforts. Low Country Food Bank Regional Food Center Manager Shayla Livingston said more donations is a good thing, because they have more to send out. "Right now, I'm scheduling truckloads of food to go as far as we go safely," explained Shayla Livingston. Livingston added, it's the help from dozens of businesses that is making the difference. "We're getting a lot of support for Hurricane Matthew relief. Kroger brought us a truckload of food yesterday - about 48 pallets. Food Lion has been giving, I got a call from Jiffy Lube, they want to do a food drive," Livingston said.

WMBF: Cherry Grove Fire causes estimated \$6.9 million in damage

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/33396136/cherry-grove-fire-causes-estimated-69-million-in-damage>

Officials now estimate nearly \$7 million in damages resulted from the fire that started in Cherry Grove last Saturday during Hurricane Matthew. Sue Handy is a permanent resident in the building next door to the rubble, which likely would have caught fire as well if not for firefighters. Handy says she's glad she took the Governor Nikki Haley's advice and got out when she did. "I think one of the points about evacuation is that people say, 'Oh I don't have to, I can ride it out.' But when I left here, I never anticipated a fire," said Sue Handy. Handy watched live on social media as the fire spread across six structures and barely missed her home. "It was across the street so I thought that's where it is. And then we literally watched it jump across the street and then you could just see that the wind was all heading in this direction," Handy said.

WMBF: Lumberton families finally getting through water to check on flooded homes

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/33395646/lumberton-families-finally-getting-through-water-to-check-on-flooded-homes>

For the first time since river levels became so high in the Lumberton area, people are able to get through water and into their flooded homes to check on them. One mother said they got out of there Saturday in the middle of the night as soon as they could tell water levels were rising and rising quickly. She got a ride to take her and her four kids to Charlotte to stay with family until she couldn't wait any longer to see what their home looks like now. "Oh my gosh, the first feeling, I was just nervous in the stomach. I've been throwing up for the last few days, can't keep food down, just traumatized because we've never experienced anything like this. So my children, they are going through it, but we are pulling together," said Latoya Cain. She said for six days the feeling of the unknown haunted her.

WMBF: Boat landings flood after Hurricane Matthew

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/33395113/boat-landings-flood-after-hurricane-matthew>

The boat landing at the end of Bay Road, and all of the people who live near it are being overcome by water that they said doesn't seem to be going anywhere soon enough. "It's devastating, but down here it just seems the water issues are atrocious. People can't get away from the water," said Bert Colucci. "It's been hard on everybody in this area," added Robert Cathey. Both men live near the Waccamaw River and many residents there are tossing up a white flag and surrendering to the rising water that has the Bay Road Boat Landing looking more like a lake. Colucci, who often uses the landing, tried to explain what it should look like. "The end of that last pier is where the water recedes down to the point where you put your boat in the water, that you can launch your boat properly. Actually this is worse than last October, when we had the floods and the rain last October," Colucci explained.

WBTW: Update on FEMA individual assistance in Florence County

<http://wbtw.com/2016/10/14/update-on-fema-individual-assistance-in-florence-county/>

Johnsonville of Florence County was hit hard by flooding last year but with the help from FEMA many people in the First Neck Road area were prepared for high water this year. First Neck Road in Johnsonville is a known flood area and is still flooded almost one week after Hurricane Matthew. Bill Altman lives just off of First Neck Road. He said lost everything after the October Flood last year. "I lost everything, everything in the house. My clothes, everything had mildew. So I just had to lose it and get over it," Altman explained. Altman said Hurricane Matthew created higher flood waters than last year's flood. This year he bought a new home with help from FEMA. He built his home 4 feet above the ground to avoid it from flooding. Altman said, "I was prepared this year. That's the reason I went up that high with my trailer." Florence County was declared a disaster by President Barack Obama. Meaning county buildings, roads and streets can receive federal money for repairs from the

storm. Individual assistance depends on if damages in Florence County meet a certain financial amount.

NOTE: After the FEMA damage assessment is complete in Florence County. The assessment will be sent to Governor Nikki Haley. Who will request individual assistance from President Obama.

WBTW: South Lumberton families remain positive in shelters days after Hurricane Matthew

<http://wbtw.com/2016/10/14/lumberton-families-remain-positive-in-shelters-days-after-hurricane-matthew/>

When the Lumber River left its banks it left hundreds of people with nowhere to go. Five days have passed since 26 year-old Angela Kallel and her three kids left home. "I had to leave my mother and father ashes on top of the fridge so I don't know if they are still there or not," Kallel added. The family has been at Purnell Swett High School since the flooding. Kallel calls the school a home away from home. "You got curfews, when you can eat, when you can shower but they've been really nice out here they helped us out a lot," explained Kallel. Kallel and her family lives in South Lumberton the hardest area hit by the flooding. "If it weren't for that little bit of help I had I would've probably loss it," she said. But she didn't, who joins Kallel at the shelter is a man who helped save their lives. "We saw a guy walk back and forth in my backyard about seven times. I asked him hey can you tell somebody I have twins that are a year-old and a six-year old can they come help me," Kallel explained.

WBTW: Flooding still at its peak in Lumberton days after Hurricane Matthew

<http://wbtw.com/2016/10/14/flooding-still-at-its-peak-in-lumberton-days-after-hurricane-matthew/>

Lumberton is one of the worst hit areas in North Carolina. Days after Hurricane Matthew flooding is still at its peak. Along west 5th Street in Lumberton the flood waters stretch about 3 miles down the road. And in that three miles, hundreds of people's lives have been destroyed due to the waters. "I'm 45 and I've never see it flood like this in this area, said Eddie Williams. Williams owns a business along fifth street and he did his best to get everything out. "28 years of stuff, man," Williams said. Williams and his four employees made it back and forth through the water using tables from a flea market as a make-shift bridge. "Trying to save the tattoo shop man to get everything out of it, so we can make a living for these guys that work for me," Williams said. Williams and his girlfriend were able to save something else. A dog named Coco was trapped in the flood waters since Friday and they got her back to her owner. And all of this was with the help of Sean Waggoner, who lent not only himself to help carry supplies back and forth, but his massive tow truck. Waggoner has been making this run through the feet of flood waters since Saturday.

WBTW: Socastee frustrated with even more flooding

<http://wbtw.com/2016/10/14/socastee-frustrated-with-even-more-flooding/>

Socastee residents weren't the first to feel the effects of Waccamaw flooding, but the rising river now has those neighborhoods filling with water. People who've called Socastee home for decades say they have never seen the water this high. The Intracoastal Waterway has filled nearby lakes and is now emptying into neighborhoods. The river is currently just over 16 ft. It's expected to crest at 17, where it will remain for days. That's bad news for people like Kenneth Homesley, who's fed up the extra water. "This is the fourth time we've been flooded in one year. We had the original flood with the rains last year, than we had the runoff from up north 30 days later, that's two. We had the flood during the storm and now we have this one." Multiple residents expressed frustration about the flooding of their homes. And with the Waccamaw not even crested, flooding will remain an ongoing problem.

WPDE: Volunteers help people pick up the pieces after Matthew

<http://wpde.com/news/local/volunteers-lending-a-hand-to-people-as-they-recover-from-the-wrath-of->

matthew

For many people, the long road to recovery from the destruction left behind by Hurricane Matthew has only just started. The damage left behind by Hurricane Matthew had Vernando Budd wondering how he would move forward. His home off of Turkey Ridge Road in Myrtle Beach was damaged by downed trees. He didn't know how he could afford to remove the trees, and he knew he couldn't remove them on his own. That's when volunteers with Samaritan's Purse stepped in to help. "It makes me feel refreshed that we still have people that actually do things and will actually help people without expecting something in return," said Budd. When disaster hits, members of Samaritan's Purse come to help people pick up the pieces. "They may be at the low point of their lives, and we come to love them and show them that we're good neighbors no matter what part of the country we're from and assist them," said Roger Rowe, who helped to clean up and remove a tree from Budd's yard on Friday.

WPDE: Gunters Island community faces severe flooding

<http://wpde.com/news/local/gunters-island-community-faces-severe-flooding>

Gunters Island is facing severe flooding after Hurricane Matthew led to rising river levels along the Little Pee Dee. The small community is located just off Pee Dee Road South near Galivants Ferry in Horry County. Some ABC 15 viewers from the area told our news staff that they weren't even able to grab the bare necessities like clothing before having to leave. Police have begun manning a checkpoint at the entrance to the community, only letting residents through. ABC 15 went to the area and found one vehicle that had become stuck as the water rose. That water now surrounds the car, leaving it more than halfway underwater. We are told that most residents have left the area, but some have returned in boats to gather items from their homes.

WPDE: Waiting on the waters of the Waccamaw to crest: "This is about the worst"

<http://wpde.com/news/local/waiting-on-the-waters-of-the-waccamaw-to-crest>

The rising waters of the Waccamaw are leaving many uneasy, as those who live along the banks wait for the river to crest. "You've got to boat in and out every day just to get to work," said Ricky Gardner, who lives on Lees Landing Circle. Gardner makes another trip to bring in food for his wife and gas for his generator. Boats and kayaks line the rising 'shoreline' on Lees Landing Circle in Conway. "It's come up a good foot, yeah," said Gardner. Gardner has lived in Lees Landing for 30 years. "I think this is about the worst," he said. He said the hardest part is waiting to see just how high the water will rise. "It's rough, man. We've got animals. You can't leave the animals. And my wife, she's depressed," said Gardner. On Wednesday, you could still get to the front door of Riverside Restaurant in downtown Conway. But on Friday, 48 hours later, the water has swallowed up more of Elm Street.

WPDE: Lumberton families face loss after Matthew; county schedules news conference for Saturday

<http://wpde.com/news/local/lumberton-families-face-total-loss-after-hurricane-matthew>

As flood waters slowly begin to recede from some communities in Lumberton, families are venturing out to see what's left of the homes they left behind when they were forced to evacuate. One family said they are being forced to deal with the reality of needing to throw out all of their mother's belongings. The Stewarts said their mother has lived in the same home for nearly 50 years. When the water began to recede near Starlight Road, the family came to check on her home. After the floods though, they said it's almost a total loss. "It's bad, honey. It's your mama's home. She wants to come home. But, she can't come here," said Arbeeila Stewart, whose mother's home was badly damaged. Now, 50 years of memories are in garbage bags on the side of the road.

WPDE: SC officials conducting damage assessments, not operating Disaster SNAP at this time

<http://wpde.com/news/local/sc-not-operating-disaster-snap-program-at-this-time>

South Carolina officials are conducting assessments to determine whether the state is eligible for individual assistance from FEMA, but in the meantime current Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients are urged to apply for replacement of any food lost during Hurricane Matthew. According to Derrec Becker, Public Information Officer for South Carolina Emergency Management Division, the state is currently conducting damage assessments across the area. Becker said, if individual assistance is needed and granted, it will be announced immediately. Those who are current SNAP recipients and require aid as a result of food losses during the hurricane and subsequent power outages can apply for replacement of all or part of their benefits. To apply for replacement, Marilyn Matheus, Director of Media Relations at the Department of Social Services, said recipients must apply in person at a county Department of Social Services (DSS) office.

WCSC: Hurricane Matthew aftermath inspires acts of kindness

<http://www.live5news.com/story/33396582/hurricane-matthew-aftermath-inspires-acts-of-kindness>

West Ashley residents Stephanie Webb and Mary Gale have a special place in their heart for Edisto Island after vacationing there for many years. "We love Edisto we call it our little slice of heaven," Gale said. "We felt like we needed to do something because we've been so fortunate we didn't have the hardships that they are having right now." With it being one of the hardest hit areas by Hurricane Matthew in our state, they came together to donate items like food, water, and toiletries to families on the island. "This is a place that's not even our home, but we feel like it's our second home and we love it," Webb said. What started from a group text among their friends has now spread after posts on social media. "Immediately people just posted right back, where can I drop stuff off, when can I bring it by, can I meet you somewhere all day today," Webb said. They've had people coming by the house to drop off items and they've been around town picking things up that people have offered to donate.

WCSC: Flood warning continues for Edisto River

<http://www.live5news.com/story/33395475/flood-warning-continues-for-edisto-river>

It is the storm that just will not go away. As most areas continue to get back to normal, some inland residents are still evacuating after Hurricane Matthew. The Edisto River continues to rise as water flows down from other areas, putting homes and buildings at risk for more flooding. Friday morning, meteorologists were reporting the river is more than 14 feet above where it should be. A flood warning starts at ten feet above normal levels. "We're getting all the water that's coming down from Orangeburg, north and south of the Edisto River where they join up and now all this water is draining back into here," Edisto resident Bryan Adkins said. "Plus, we're getting everything that has fallen around here." Colleton County residents living near the river say flooding is expected after heavy rainfall. "You know, I love living down here. I like being along the river, it's just been a really bad year for us," Adkins said. The boat ramp in Adkins neighborhood is under eight feet of water. "It's just been a real pain for everybody." "If a storm comes you're wondering if the river is going to come up," Edisto resident Mary Hiren said.

Keith Scott Shooting:

Associated Press: Charlotte police shooting victim finally laid to rest

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=r9L8K9nx

The family of a man shot to death by police in North Carolina last month has finally laid him to rest at a church cemetery in South Carolina. Family and friends filled the First Baptist Church of James Island on Friday to give their final respects to Keith Lamont Scott. His funeral was supposed to take place on Oct. 6, but was delayed when Hurricane Matthew threatened the South Carolina coast. Scott

was sitting in his vehicle in the parking lot of is Charlotte, North Carolina, apartment complex when he was shot by police trying to find a different man on Sept. 20. Police video showed officers shouting for Scott to drop a gun numerous times. Scott's family said he did not have a gun and was reading a book. Scott's funeral was both political and personal with remembrances of the father of seven who loved to listen to reggae music, watch his sons play sports and married the love of his life 20 years ago, according to his funeral program.

Post and Courier: At Keith Scott funeral on James Island, many draw inspiration from his life, death in police shooting

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20161014/161019725/at-keith-scott-funeral-on-james-island-many-draw-inspiration-from-his-life-death-in-police-shooting>

She had watched the dashboard videos, the body camera footage, the cellphone clips of police shootings across the country. She saw one happen in her hometown community when Walter Scott was killed last year in North Charleston. But Michelle Cromwell, a singer and songwriter, wasn't moved to write about police-involved deaths of black men until her longtime friend, Keith Scott, was shot by officers last month in Charlotte, where they both lived. She happened upon the shooting scene that day, not realizing her friend since their childhood in Charleston lay bleeding nearby. "That's when it's too close," she said. "He was just 50 feet away. ... But (the issue) is blatant. It's in our face. If you don't say something, it's going to continue. If it continues, it's not going to get better." Cromwell penned a song, "Black lives matter too," and read it Friday at First Baptist Church on James Island. "I'm black, and I'm tired of living in fear of the skin I'm in," one line said. She was one of several people to express how Scott, 43, influenced their lives or spurred a movement. His death, in a way, inspired others to bridge a racial divide they see in the U.S. and moved some to better themselves, they said during the funeral service.

Charlotte Observer : Keith Lamont Scott mourners vow 'we can continue to fight'

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/special-reports/charlotte-shooting-protests/article108192292.html>

Keith Lamont Scott's funeral was pushed back a week by Hurricane Matthew. And when hundreds of his family and friends finally gathered Friday for a proper sendoff in the marsh community where the 43-year-old was born, the storm surrounding his death poured through the church doors. Scott died 200 miles away on Sept. 20, encircled by Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officers who opened fire, they say, after Scott, a husband, father of seven. His family says there was no weapon, that Scott, an avid reader, was holding a book. They and other critics say Scott lying in a black casket Friday only because police lost control of a confrontation they caused. The investigation continues. And while the disputed specifics of shooting didn't surface at the First Baptist Church of James Island, the grief, confusion and anger still harbored by Scott's loved ones was as clear as the toppled trees and ripped-up sweetgrass piled along the roads.

Charlotte Observer: Scott family attorney hopes to reach agreement with city, avoid trial

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/article108191152.html>

An attorney for Keith Lamont Scott's family told a South Carolina TV station he hopes to reach an agreement with the city of Charlotte and avoid a trial over the fatal police shooting of Scott. An autopsy commissioned by the family suggests problems with the "tactical approach" Charlotte Mecklenburg Police used in the seconds leading up to the fatal shooting, attorney Justin Bamberg told WIS TV in Columbia. Bamberg questioned police directives to Scott when he was sitting in his car. Bamberg's comments suggest tactics the family may use in negotiations with the city over a potential wrongful death lawsuit in the case. The city paid \$2.25 million last year to settle a similar

case with the family of Jonathan Ferrell, an African American man who was shot and killed by a Charlotte police officer in 2013. Scott was black, as is the officer who shot him, Bentley Vinson. CMPD said Vinson shot Scott because he was armed with a gun and refused to follow multiple police warnings and commands. The Sept. 20 incident, which occurred in a northeast Charlotte parking lot, sparked a week of sometimes violent protests.

General Assembly News:

The State: GOP hoping to flip Richland state Senate seat

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article108235282.html>

Republicans are hoping to flip the GOP Richland state Senate seat held by a retiring Democrat. The race — between Richland 2 school board member Susan Brill, a Republican, and Democratic state Rep. Mia McLeod — is tight, based on a GOP poll last month. That poll said Brill was trailing McLeod by 3 percentage points with 16 percent of voters surveyed undecided. “Picking up an additional seat, especially with someone like Susan Brill, who is focused on actually getting stuff done ... would be a big help,” said Senate Majority Leader Shane Massey, R-Edgefield. However, Democrats say they plan to keep the seat blue. “We’re going to win that seat. I have no doubt,” said S.C. Democratic Party chairman Jaime Harrison, adding McLeod is a work horse, not taking anything for granted. The race — for the seat now held by Democrat Joel Lourie — has divided Northeast Richland. In the past, Lourie, for example, has contributed to both Brill’s school board races and McLeod’s legislative campaigns. This year, however, the Democrat has not endorsed either candidate, and his brother is a co-chairman of Republican Brill’s Senate campaign. Republican Brill is running as a moderate, trying to win over Democrats in the district. But she and McLeod have sparred over national politics and the way McLeod makes her livelihood.

The State: Indicted Richland recreation director now charged with witness intimidation

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article108312102.html>

James Brown III, the director of the Richland County Recreation Commission who was indicted by a county grand jury on Wednesday, has been arrested on charges of intimidating a witness in the case, Sheriff Leon Lott announced late Friday afternoon. The alleged act took place in the 7500 block of Parklane Road, near the recreation commission’s headquarters. After Lott’s department investigated the charges, a warrant was sworn out and Brown later turned himself in to authorities around 5 p.m., the sheriff announced. Brown’s indictment Wednesday came after a monthslong investigation by the FBI, the sheriff’s department, SLED and the state Attorney General’s office. The indictment charged him with misconduct in office, alleging he had tried to coerce female employees working for him into having sex. The sheriff added that Brown approached a female victim in the case, as well as other employees, “in a threatening manner while knowing he could not speak with them while aware of the criminal investigation against him.”

NOTE: On Thursday, 10 of the 17 members of the Richland County legislative delegation sent a 31-page letter to Gov. Nikki Haley, asking her to remove five of the seven members on the recreation commission board. “This is the worst example of government gone wrong that I’ve ever seen,” said Sen. Joel Lourie, D-Richland, one of the lawmakers who signed the letter.

NOTE: Although Lourie and several other members met with Haley last week, the 10 members in their letter not only request Haley to remove the commissioners, they also list complaints about what they call the board’s rampant abuse of power, malfeasance in office, tolerance of widespread nepotism, a cover-up and wasteful spending. The letter contains extensive documentation and repeatedly refers to questionable actions by Brown. Not all delegation members agreed that Haley should fire the commissioners.

SC Political News:

The State: Watch the final Clinton-Trump debate on the big screen

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article108190337.html>

This year's presidential race is so dramatic, one theater chain decided it needed the big screen treatment. Regal Cinemas has announced it will air the third and final presidential debate between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton at 206 of its movie theaters across the country, including two in Columbia. The announcement comes after the theater chain managed to draw big crowds for the previous debate between the two candidates. "After the success of airing the last debate, including many full auditoriums, we want to continue to encourage our local communities to be engaged in public policy and provide Regal guests the unique opportunity to experience the political process on the big screen," said Steve Bunnell, chief content and programming officer at Regal Entertainment Group. In Columbia, the debate can be seen at Regal Columbiana Grande off Harbison Boulevard and Regal Sandhill theater at the Village at Sandhill.

The State: SC's Nancy O'Dell, at center of Trump firestorm, separating from husband

<http://www.thestate.com/entertainment/celebrities/article108223307.html>

According to Us Weekly, the "Entertainment Tonight" host separated from her husband Keith Zubulevich after more than 10 years of marriage. The Washington Post reported last week that Trump, the Republican presidential candidate, had bragged about kissing, groping and trying to have sex with women, including O'Dell. The separation happened a month before the Trump tape was released and "has nothing to do with that," Us Weekly reported. Trump apologized for the comments, recorded in 2005, calling them "locker room talk." O'Dell responded by criticizing Trump, saying "there is no room for objectification of women ... not even in the locker room." O'Dell grew up in Myrtle Beach and is a Clemson University graduate.

Greenville News: Pickens GOP state representative Collins goes on anti-Trump tweetstorm

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/10/14/pickens-gop-state-representative-collins-goes-anti-trump-tweetstorm/92038672/>

When S.C. Rep. Neal Collins got a fundraising email from Donald Trump's presidential campaign with the subject "Are you still with me?", the Pickens County Republican had an answer for his party's presidential nominee. "No." With a screenshot of the email attached to each, Collins wrote 22 tweets Thursday night detailing the reasons why he isn't "still with" Trump. Collins realized he could not support Trump just a month into the New York billionaire's presidential campaign, when Trump said U.S. Sen. John McCain was not a war hero because he was a prisoner of war. One of Collins' uncles was a prisoner of war and was later missing in action during the Vietnam War. Another of Collins' uncles was killed in action in the Korean War. Trump's comment about McCain, for which he never apologized, deeply offended Collins, who supported U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio in South Carolina's presidential primary.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Project on Sassafras Mountain delayed till spring

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

A project to create a 360-degree view from atop South Carolina's tallest peak will not be completed until next year. South Carolina Department of Natural Resources spokesman Greg Lucas told the Anderson Independent Mail (<http://bit.ly/2dnRnNE>) that construction of a tower on the mountain on

the South Carolina-North Carolina state line is not likely to begin until the spring. Natural Resources officials had hoped construction might start in September or October, but paperwork delays and cold weather at the top of the nearly 3,600-foot peak have pushed the construction into 2017. Lucas said concrete cannot be poured on the peak when the weather is cold so it appears work will not start until spring. Private funding for the first phase of construction on the 15-foot tower was acquired in June. That first phase will consist of the observation tower at the mountain top and restrooms.

Local News:

Associated Press: Deputies seek 16-year-olds in killing of man in Spartanburg

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

Authorities say four teens shot and killed a man at his Spartanburg County home after trying to rob him last week. Deputies said in a news release that two 16-year-olds have been arrested and charged with armed robbery and another 16-year-old is charged with murder, but has not been located. Investigators are trying to determine the name of a fourth teen. Deputies say the teens drove to 20-year-old Thompson Demas' home Oct. 8, and robbed and shot him in his garage. Authorities say they plan to try the teens as adults.

Associated Press: 4 Clafin students die in head-on Interstate 77 wreck

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=7h97ivON

South Carolina troopers say four college students have died after their SUV crossed the median of Interstate 77 near Columbia and slammed into oncoming traffic. The Richland County Coroner's office identified the dead as 21-year-old Melvin Jackson Jr. of Chester; 21-year-old Darrell Pendergrass of Society Hill; 18-year-old Keeron McElveen of Kingstree and 19-year-old Jamarius Bruce of Darlington. The coroner's office says Jackson was the driver. Clafin University says all four were students. The school is offering counseling and opening its chapel in Orangeburg for prayer and reflection. Troopers say they are still investigating why the SUV crossed the median near the Killian Road exit around 5:40 p.m. Thursday. A person in the vehicle that was struck by SUV was taken to the hospital.

The State: Clafin mourns loss of four 'visionary' students: 'You will see your brothers again'

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article108263752.html>

Clafin University is grieving the loss of four students in a Columbia wreck Thursday evening – each of them from a small town in South Carolina. Melvin Lonell Jackson Jr., 21, of Chester; Darrell Renard Pendergrass, 21, of Society Hill; and Keeron Q. McElveen, 18, of Kingstree, died at the scene of the I-77 wreck, Richland County Coroner Gary Watts said Friday. Jamarius Kel'Shawn Bruce, 19, of Darlington, was taken to Palmetto Health Richland hospital, where he, too, died from multiple traumas suffered in the wreck, Watts said. All four were sport management majors at Clafin, a university spokesman said. A fifth student, Gernardo Cato, a freshman from Goose Creek, remained during a noon prayer service on campus Friday, some 900 Clafin faculty, students and staff mourned the loss of "visionary leaders."

Post and Courier: Former Goose Creek basketball player sole survivor of fatal Columbia crash

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20161014/161019683/former-goose-creek-basketball-player-sole-survivor-of-fatal-columbia-crash>

A former Goose Creek High School basketball player is the sole survivor of a fatal crash that left four Clafin University students dead Thursday evening. Gernardo Cato, the former Goose Creek player, is a freshman at the university and is being treated at a Columbia hospital, said J. Craig Cotton, public

relations director for the school. Melvin Lonell Jackson Jr., 21, of Chester; Darrell Renard Pendergrass, 21, of Society Hill and Keeron Q. McElveen, 18, of Kingstree, died at the scene of the crash, the Richland County Coroner's Office said. Jamarius Kel'Shawn Bruce, 19, of Darlington, was transported to Palmetto Health Richland Memorial Hospital but died from his injuries in the surgical trauma intensive care unit. The two-vehicle crash happened around 5:45 p.m. Thursday on Interstate 77 between mile markers 22 and 23 in Columbia, the coroner's office said. Jackson and Pendergrass, who were sitting in the front seat of one of the vehicles, were wearing their seatbelts.

Independent Mail: Clemson to ask for \$10M for arena

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/2016/10/14/clemson-ask-10m-arena/92069656/>

Clemson University will ask for \$10 million in next year's state budget to overhaul the T. Ed Garrison Arena. George Askew, Clemson's agriculture dean and PSA vice president, told the university's trustees Friday that an expanded Garrison facility could draw more and bigger cattle shows, conventions and other activities if it were overhauled. "I still believe that this is an excellent economic development opportunity for the whole Upstate, and it would promote the agricultural economy of the whole state," said Askew, who wants to enclose the arena and add climate-controlled exhibition and meeting spaces. The arena, just west of Pendleton, is the site of agricultural and education events more than 40 weekends of the year. But it is not impervious to the weather or as big as other facilities in the Southeast. A 2012 economic survey stated that Garrison brings about \$9 million a year in spending to the Upstate.

Herald-Journal: Real clowns don't wear masks, pros say

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20161014/real-clowns-dont-wear-masks-pros-say?rssfeed=true>

Lee Andrews has spent the past week doing what he loves best at the Piedmont Interstate Fair — entertaining people of all ages as a clown. Andrews, better known by his stage name Lew-E the Clown, has worked the fair for the past five years. He said reports of creepy clown sightings in South Carolina and other states haven't deterred him or hurt his business. "I travel nationally and internationally and do close to 600 shows a year," Andrews said. "Each one of my clients loves me for who I am and what I do. Regardless of what happens, I'm pretty much guaranteed to be back at certain places." Returning to the fair this year, Andrews initially was worried that the negative attention on clowns from the alleged sightings over the past few months might cause people to keep away or make parents reluctant to let their children see his show. His experience was the exact opposite, Andrews said. Parents were nice to him and children came up on their own to speak to him, Andrews said. Kelly Monfort said his experience has been similar. Monfort, known to many as Mr. Twister, is a professional clown from Anderson County and has been performing for eight years. Monfort said his business hasn't suffered.

Presidential Election 2016:

Associated Press: Trump belittles accusers as more turn up with sordid stories

<http://bigstory.ap.org/5e65c322ef3e49a7875c11ecd433c7f8>

Donald Trump acted out onstage an accuser's allegations and suggested another wasn't worthy of his attention the same day two more women came forward with years-old stories of unwanted sexual encounters with the Republican presidential nominee. With eight women accusing Trump of unwanted kissing, groping or more, the New York businessman maintained his innocence and his denunciation of opponent Hillary Clinton and an international media conspiracy aimed at denying him the White House. "100 percent fabricated and made-up charges, pushed strongly by the media and the Clinton Campaign, may poison the minds of the American Voter. FIX!" Trump tweeted on Saturday morning. Clinton

maintained a relatively low profile as Trump stormed, but more hacked emails from WikiLeaks raised anew questions about her private versus public pronouncements. Those released Friday showed her campaign had asked former President Bill Clinton to cancel a speech to an investment firm last year because of concerns that the Clintons might appear to be too cozy with Wall Street just as she was about to announce her candidacy.

Associated Press : Emails show concern over Bill Clinton's Wall Street speech

<http://bigstory.ap.org/1d782c158a514af7a0a89f6b6e007281>

Hillary Clinton's campaign asked former President Bill Clinton to cancel a speech to a Wall Street investment firm last year because of concerns that the Clintons might appear to be too cozy with Wall Street just as the former secretary of state was about to announce her White House bid, newly released emails show. Clinton aides say in hacked emails released Friday by the anti-secrecy group WikiLeaks that Hillary Clinton did not want her husband to cancel the speech, but after a "cool down period" was eventually convinced that canceling was the right step. Campaign manager Robby Mook said he realized canceling the lucrative speech would disappoint both Clintons but "it's a very consequential unforced error and could plague us in stories for months." The Clintons' paid speeches have been an issue throughout the campaign, particularly Hillary Clinton's private speeches to Wall Street firms. Hillary Clinton earned about \$1.5 million in speaking fees before launching her presidential campaign, while Bill Clinton reaped more than \$5 million from banking, tech and other corporate interests, according to financial documents filed by Hillary Clinton.

Associated Press: Possible Election Day problems worry civil rights advocates

<http://bigstory.ap.org/61503591ce304f60b91114eafa68d3c1>

New ID requirements. Unfamiliar or distant polling places. Names missing from the voter rolls. Those are just some of the challenges that could disrupt voting across the country through Election Day. While most elections have their share of glitches, experts worry conditions are ripe this year for trouble at the nation's polling places. This is the first presidential election year without a key enforcement provision of the federal Voting Rights Act, and 14 states have enacted new registration or voting restrictions. Adding to the uncertainty is a call by Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump for supporters to monitor the polls for voter fraud and concerns by the federal government that hackers could try to disrupt the voting process. All this has civil rights advocates on guard.

World News:

Associated Press: As Syria's war rages, US and Russia back at diplomatic table

<http://bigstory.ap.org/c8af02040dee443080318ee43710685c>

Back where they started, the United States, Russia and other international players in Syria's civil war searched Saturday for a diplomatic process that could succeed where last month's collapsed cease-fire failed. With the Syrian and Russian governments pressing an offensive against rebel-held parts of Aleppo, no one was predicting a quick breakthrough. U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry is heading the new effort, joined by a familiar cast that includes Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and the top diplomats of Saudi Arabia, Iran, Turkey, Qatar, Egypt and Jordan. Days of deadly airstrikes in Aleppo prompted Kerry last month to end bilateral U.S.-Russian engagement on Syria, including discussions over a proposed military alliance against Islamic State and al-Qaida-linked militants in Syria. And last week he accused Russia of war crimes for targeting hospitals and civilian infrastructure in the Arab country. Nevertheless, Kerry was reuniting with Lavrov at the lakeside Beau-Rivage Palace in Lausanne, even scheduling a one-on-one meeting with him before the larger gathering. U.S. hopes of any diplomatic progress appeared to rest squarely on Russia's cooperation.

Associated Press: AP Explains: What the new global climate agreement means

<http://bigstory.ap.org/407403b60c3a466782faaf24074e73b5>

Experts say cutting hydrofluorocarbons, or HFCs, is the fastest way to reduce global warming. The United States, the world's second-worst polluter, is among the countries that want to quickly phase out the use of HFCs, and now it is bound to take the earliest action, starting by 2019. Here's a look at what it all means.

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Camlin Moore

Cell: 803-206-8236

Office: 803-734-8044