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To:
Date: 12/19/2016 5:09:21 PM
Subject: Afternoon Clips – Monday, December 19, 2016

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Nikki Haley: UN Ambassador News:

CNN: What Trump's Cabinet of 'best people' lacks

<http://www.cnn.com/2016/12/19/opinions/trump-cabinet-lacks-latinos-reyes-opinion/>

Raul A. Reyes

You're hired. That's what President-elect Donald Trump has been telling the select group of individuals whom he has chosen for his Cabinet. On Thursday he named Rep. Ryan Zinke, R-Montana, to lead the Department of the Interior. "America is the most beautiful country in the world and he is going to help keep it that way with smart management of our federal lands," Trump said in a statement. Now, with only the slots for secretary of agriculture and veteran's affairs still open, it seems highly unlikely that any Latinos will have a spot in Trump's Cabinet. In some ways, this hardly seems surprising; Trump's Cabinet is the whitest since George H.W. Bush's. And yet, this omission seems particularly glaring given that Trump is beginning his administration after a campaign that established a singularly antagonistic relationship with America's largest minority group. There is certainly no lack of qualified Latino candidates for high-profile leadership roles. By not including Latinos in his inner circle of advisers, Trump is sending the message that he does not value the talents and concerns of our community. There are 55 million Latinos in the US, and Trump can't find even one for a high-level role?

NOTE: According to Trump spokesman Jason Miller, the President-elect's team "will be very broad and diverse, both with the Cabinet and the administration." Indeed, Trump has tapped Elaine Chao, who is Asian-American, for secretary of transportation, and named South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, who is of Indian descent, as ambassador to the United Nations. But picks like these only make it more obvious that Trump is overlooking Latinos -- who comprise 17% of the population -- for his Cabinet.

NOTE: The dearth of Latinos in the Trump Cabinet is particularly noteworthy when Trump seems to be waiving many of the traditional requirements for such jobs. Ben Carson will be running HUD, despite his lack of experience in housing and urban development. Haley has no relevant diplomatic or foreign policy credentials. Rick Perry will be running the Department of Energy, which the former Texas governor and "Dancing with the Stars" contestant once vowed to eliminate while running for president himself. Our likely new secretary of state, Rex Tillerson, is a man who, as head of Exxon, reportedly acted against American interests. With such unconventional hires, the lack of Latinos in Trump's Cabinet seems less an oversight than a conscious decision.

Washington Post: Where Trump's administration overlaps with money, Congress, Russia and the military

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2016/12/19/where-trumps-administration-overlaps-with-money-congress-russia-and-the-military/?utm_term=.a7aea211e7fb

Philip Bump

The business website Quartz made an interesting observation last week: The people Donald Trump has picked for his Cabinet so far are worth more than a third of American households combined. Why? Because Trump's Cabinet has pretty deep pockets. Among his picks to lead government departments and otherwise serve his administration are elected officials, former generals or veterans, and wealthy individuals. None of those things are uncommon, of course; elected officials and the wealthy and the overlap between the two are fixtures in Washington politics. In an effort to describe

Trump's picks, we created a Venn diagram showing each and the position he or she holds in terms of wealth, experience — and, because it has been raised, relationships to Russia. In many cases, a person's net worth was difficult to ascertain.

NOTE: Nikki Haley, ambassador to the United Nations. Haley is the governor of South Carolina.

Governor Nikki Haley News:

GSA Business: Business as usual if Haley leaves, business leaders say

<http://www.gsabusiness.com/news/government/71145/>

Matthew Clark

Since Nikki Haley first assumed the governor's role in 2010, Upstate economic development has never been better. According to data from Upstate SC Alliance, nearly \$13 billion in new capital investment has been announced in the Upstate since 2010, resulting in the creation of more than 36,000 new jobs. The state has propelled to No. 2 in the country for doing business, according to Area Development – a quarterly magazine aimed at site consultants and other industry executives – and No. 7 for business climate, according to Site Selection magazine. Business executives rated the state No. 2 for its business climate and in the top 15 for new plants in 2016, both overall and per capita. But now, one of the state's biggest economic development cheerleaders is moving on after being nominated by President-elect Donald Trump to be the next ambassador to the United Nations. Haley accepted the nomination on Nov. 23 and will still have to be confirmed to the position by the U.S. Senate – a process that won't begin until the new Congress is seated in January.

Hampton County Guardian: R+L Carriers Building New Distribution Center in Hampton County

<http://www.hamptoncountygardian.com/news/2016-12-19/rl-carriers-building-new-distribution-center-hampton-county#.WFhXY3e-JBw>

R+L Carriers, a global logistics and shipping company, is expanding its current footprint in Hampton County. To accommodate its continued growth, the company will be investing \$7 million in the project, creating 25 new jobs. Formed in 1965, R+L Carriers has grown from a single-truck company into a fleet of 13,000 vehicles and is now a global logistics and shipping company. R+L serves all 50 states, along with Canada, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic. Offering a variety of shipping services, the company's freight services include options for LTL (less than a truck load), truckload, logistics, warehousing and more. When shipping, R+L also has freight service options to guarantee delivery via air service, rail service and sea service. To expand its current operations in Yemassee, S. C., the company plans to construct a new 50,000-square-foot distribution terminal on S.C. Highway 68. Hiring for the new positions is projected to begin in 2017, and interested applicants should visit www.rlcarriers.com for more information. The Coordinating Council for Economic Development awarded a \$100,000 Rural Infrastructure Fund grant to Hampton County to assist with the costs of real property improvements.

NOTE: "Today's announcement by R+L Carriers is another testament to the competitive business environment that South Carolina has to offer. We're thrilled to see one of our existing companies succeed to the point that its able to grow here, and congratulate R+L's leadership on its decision to continue to invest in South Carolina and our people." -Gov. Nikki Haley

SC AG News:

The State: SC attorney general urges Trump to stop climate rules proposed by Obama

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article121807503.html>

Attorney General Alan Wilson is among officials in 24 states urging President elect Donald Trump to reverse course on a plan to limit greenhouse gases from power plants. The target is a federal rule called the Clean Power Plan, a proposal by the Obama Administration to curb gases that contribute to climate change. The rule would require cuts in carbon dioxide pollution at power companies across the country. Wilson is among attorneys general in more than two dozen states who have already sued to stop the rule. The matter is hung up in federal court and may ultimately be decided by the U.S.

Supreme Court. But Wilson, a Republican, and leaders from other GOP-dominated states asked Trump last week to take separate action against the rule while the matter is in court. "This flawed plan was brought about in an unconstitutional manner, circumventing Congress and excluding the vote of the people's representatives," Wilson said in a news release.

SC Political News:

Associated Press: Despite protests, SC electors cast all 9 votes for Trump

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=xuum3uNj

Meg Kinnard

South Carolina's Republican electors, unmoved by hundreds of messages imploring them not to back Donald Trump, officially entered their votes Monday in favor of the president-elect. The hour-long meeting was full of the pomp and ritual this process has had for more than 200 years as the nine electors cast their ballots for Trump and vice-president-elect Mike Pence. They did it in a closed room of a legislative building. The hallways outside echoed with shouted obscenities until protesters were moved outdoors. A few reporters and photographers were allowed inside, but no members of the public to speak of; with seats occupied by the electors' grandchildren and other relatives, organizers said the space was too tight. South Carolina Republican Party Chairman Matt Moore told The Associated Press last month he'd received thousands of messages from people across the country calling Trump a "dangerous demagogue" and unexperienced "tyrant." "Vote your conscience," they implored.

The State: Despite protests, Trump easily wins SC's 9 electoral votes <http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article121782858.html>

Bristow Marchant

In a normal election year, the Electoral College vote for president is a formality without much potential for surprise. But 2016 has not been a normal election year. As South Carolina's electors formally cast their ballots for president Monday, nationwide protestors called for the electors to change the outcome and vote for someone other than Donald Trump. Their goal was to deny Trump the necessary electoral majority he needed and throw the election to the House of Representatives. Once all nine electors formally voted for Trump in line with South Carolina's statewide results, Glenn McCall, who chaired the meeting, joked that he was "concerned" after the electors received thousands of emails and phone calls asking them to reconsider. Matt Moore, an elector and the chairman of the state GOP, said afterward the result was never in doubt. "I got over 2,000 emails," asking him to change his vote, Moore said. "They were polite, but they were constitutionally wrong." Most electors said they were bound to cast their votes for the popular vote winner in South Carolina, both ethically and legally – state law requires them to vote for the state's top vote-getter.

Post and Courier: Trump collects all 9 S.C. Electoral College votes amid protest at meeting

http://www.postandcourier.com/politics/trump-collects-all-s-c-electoral-college-votes-amid-protest/article_2d7def2c-c603-11e6-97b5-b3dc1fac96b8.html

Andrew Knittle

Protesters waited patiently in the freezing rain Monday morning outside the state Capitol building, but that calm and quiet was shattered after the South Carolina Republican Electoral College voted unanimously for President-elect Donald Trump, giving the New York real estate mogul all nine of the state's electoral votes. Within seconds of the vote, which was broadcast to the public by a live stream, an unidentified protester wearing a green hoodie began to scream, "No!" and "(expletive) Trump" as police officers escorted him from the Blatt office building. Another woman began screaming, as well, and soon joined the man outside. Within minutes, dozens of vocal protesters were outside of the office building, walking in circles and singing protest songs. When Trump supporters began to filter out of the Blatt building, protesters shouted at them, "Shame on you!" None of the protesters were arrested.

WIS: SC's electors send votes to Trump, Pence despite protest

<http://www.wistv.com/story/34088704/scs-electors-send-votes-to-trump-pence-despite-protest>

Jeremy Turnage

South Carolina's nine votes in the Electoral College have gone to President-elect Donald Trump and Vice President-elect Mike Pence even despite protesters calls for intelligence briefings on Russia's alleged meddling in the 2016 campaign. A few dozen people gathered with signs, urging electors not to vote for Trump but to vote for another or withhold their vote until more is known about the potential Russian hack into the election. Protestors cited Alexander Hamilton's The Federalist Papers, saying Hamilton warned of foreign involvement in elections. But electors say they are bound by state law to vote for the candidate they earlier declared they would vote for -- and that was Trump. All nine of the Palmetto State's elector's votes were certified by South Carolina Secretary of State Mark Hammond on Monday morning. "Our electors are very strong people and they received thousands of emails and calls, but I knew our electors who had pledged to vote for the nominee of the party, Donald Trump, was going to cast their vote for Donald Trump," Hammond said.

Associated Press: The Latest: SC GOP chairman: Electoral protest 'sour grapes'

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Ws38cnqP

South Carolina's electoral votes have been certified as cast for Republican Donald Trump. Secretary of State Mark Hammond on Monday certified the nine votes cast by the state's Electoral College members. Electors said they had been contacted by hundreds of people from across the country imploring them not to vote for Trump. After Monday's vote, state Republican Party Chairman Matt Moore said he and the other electors were not swayed by the messages and called demands they support anyone other than Trump "sour grapes" from voters whose candidates had not been successful.

WIS: Sheheen calls national Dems 'sissies' and GOP 'elitist billionaires' in post

<http://www.wistv.com/story/34088060/sheheen-calls-national-dems-sissies-and-gop-elitist-billionaires-in-post>

Jeremy Turnage

South Carolina state Sen. Vincent Sheheen says he's been approached and asked about running for Congressman Mick Mulvaney's seat as the latter prepares to take a position as the director of Office of Management and Budget in President-elect Donald Trump's administration. However, Sheheen appears to be non-committal, according to a post on his Facebook page. "Over the last week, many people have reached out to me inquiring if I would consider running for Congress to represent our people. I am very happy here in Camden, and before this moment, I never really thought about going to Washington to try and save our national government," Sheheen said. "I honestly don't know what the future holds." But despite the non-committal, Sheheen, who ran twice against Gov. Nikki Haley in 2010 and 2014, appears to be laying down what his message would be should he choose to run for the soon-to-be-vacant seat.

NC Gov. Roy Cooper News:

Associated Press: Gov-elect: End near for North Carolina's 'bathroom bill'

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/71945fb539b9445b8a0f0fca12121a39/incoming-governor-says-north-carolina-will-repeal-lgbt-law>

North Carolina leaders struck a deal Monday to kill the state law widely derided as the "bathroom bill," after it tarnished the state's reputation, cost it scores of jobs and contributed to the Republican governor's narrow loss. Democratic Gov.-elect Roy Cooper announced legislators will hold a special session to repeal the law known as HB2 that excludes sexual orientation and gender identity from antidiscrimination protections. The law requires transgender people to use restrooms corresponding with the sex on their birth certificate in many public buildings. Undoing the law would be a step toward mending political divisions that remain raw well after Election Day. Just last week, lawmakers called a special session to strip Cooper of some authority before he takes office next month. The state's

Republican leaders confirmed they're open to repealing HB2, but in a sign of lingering acrimony, they accused Cooper of taking too much credit for winning their cooperation.

Charlotte Observer: Gov. Pat McCrory calls for special legislative session to repeal HB2

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/article121729973.html>

Jim Morrill and Steve Harrison

Following a surprise move by the Charlotte City Council, Republican Gov. Pat McCrory Monday called for a special session Wednesday to consider repeal of House Bill 2. The governor's afternoon statement came in a series of rapidly unfolding events that could signal the end of a nine-month drama that catapulted North Carolina into national headlines. HB2, seen by critics as an anti-LGBT measure, prompted boycotts and cost the state millions in lost jobs. McCrory's call came hours after the Charlotte City Council voted 10-0 to rescind the LGBT ordinance that prompted HB 2. "This sudden reversal, with little notice after the gubernatorial election has ended, sadly proves this entire issue, originated by the political left, was all about politics at the expense of Charlotte and the entire state of North Carolina," McCrory said in a video statement.

Dylann Roof Case:

Associated Press: Hearing set ahead of Roof's federal sentencing trial

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

SC State Wire

A judge has set a hearing ahead of sentencing proceedings for the man convicted of killing nine black worshippers at a South Carolina church.

U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel has scheduled a pre-trial hearing for Dylann Roof on Dec. 28. A jury found Roof guilty last week of 33 federal charges including hate crimes in the June 2015 attack at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church. The same jury on Jan. 3 will begin hearing evidence as to why prosecutors feel Roof should be executed for his crimes. The 22-year-old Roof is acting as his own lawyer during the sentencing phase. He notified the court last week in a handwritten motion he didn't intend to introduce any evidence pertaining to his mental health. A state death penalty trial is expected next year.

Post and Courier: Hearing set in advance of Dylann Roof sentencing proceedings

http://www.postandcourier.com/church_shooting/hearing-set-in-advance-of-dylann-roof-sentencing-proceedings/article_dcbf894e-c62d-11e6-9f99-3fb4fe931f37.html

Glenn Smith

A hearing has been scheduled next week to discuss matters pertaining to sentencing proceedings for Dylann Roof, who faces a possible death sentence for killing nine black worshippers at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church. U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel scheduled the pre-trial hearing for Dec. 28 at 10 a.m. Last week, a jury found the 22-year-old self-avowed white supremacist guilty of 33 federal counts in connection with the June 2015 church massacre. He was convicted of hate crimes, obstructing religion and firearms violations. The jury will return Jan. 3 to begin the penalty phase of the trial. They will mull whether Roof should be put to death for his crimes or sentenced to a life prison term. A hearing has been scheduled next week to discuss matters pertaining to sentencing proceedings for Dylann Roof, who faces a possible death sentence for killing nine black worshippers at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church. U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel scheduled the pre-trial hearing for Dec. 28 at 10 a.m.

Hurricane Matthew Recovery:

Island Packet: Boats stranded by Hurricane Matthew not going anywhere quickly

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article121814613.html>

Stephen Fastenau

The boats you see stranded along the roadway during your commute aren't going away soon, but someone is working on it. A state investigator is trying to determine the owners of about 20 boats in Beaufort County displaced by Hurricane Matthew in October, Department of Natural Resources Lt. Michael Paul Thomas said Monday. That doesn't include concentrated areas like the boats pushed around at Palmetto Bay Marina on Hilton Head, he said. The stranded boats include several tossed along Sea Island Parkway from Factory Creek, greeting motorists coming and going from Lady's Island the past two months. Before the vessels can be removed, the owners have to be properly notified and given enough time to respond. The process can be slowed by clouded titles. "Nobody wants the boats gone more than we do, but we want to make sure we do it in a proper manner," Thomas said.

Island Packet: Need help paying your mortgage after Hurricane Matthew? Check this out <http://www.islandpacket.com/news/weather/hurricane/article121721741.html>

The Hilton Head Area Association of Realtors, in partnership with the National Association of Realtors, is offering relief assistance to Hurricane Matthew victims in Beaufort County through the Realtor Relief Fund. The fund will provide mortgage or rent relief of up to \$1,000 to qualified individuals, according to a Beaufort County news release. Assistance is available to qualified applicants toward one of the following...

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Holiday gas prices 25 cents a gallon higher over 2015

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/holiday-gas-prices-cents-a-gallon-higher-over/article_29c58700-c5f9-11e6-8862-cf674f9cd6de.html

Warren L. Wise Holiday travelers across South Carolina will pay about 25 cents more per gallon to fill up this year over last year. Prices climbed steadily this month following a decision last month by oil-exporting countries to trim production to boost sagging world prices. The average price of gas in South Carolina is about \$2.02 a gallon, holding steady at last week's rate, according to gas price service GasBuddy. Motor club AAA puts the price a penny higher. Nationally, the price jumped 3.1 cents per gallon during the past week to an average of \$2.24, according to both gas price services. That's also about 25 cents a gallon more than this time last year. "With West Texas Intermediate crude oil holding over \$50 per barrel for the last several weeks, gasoline prices have moved higher in a majority of the country," said Patrick DeHaan, senior petroleum analyst for GasBuddy. "Some 39 states saw average gasoline prices rise last week, and this week may see a similar fate at the pump as retail gasoline prices continue to play a game of catch-up to the three-week rally in oil prices."

Island Packet: Hilton Head charter captain: There are more than 1,000 great whites off SC coast <http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/news-columns-blogs/untamed-lowcountry/article121739613.html>

Mandy Matney

Chip Michalove has been on the hunt for great white sharks for the last 12 years. But not to kill them. The Hilton Head Island charter captain wants to catch, hook and tag the animals and learn everything he can about them. "I'm obsessed," he admits. "If there's a shark documentary, book, show, article out there, I'm all over it." "And trust me, I would never ever think about killing one," he added in response to some recent Facebook accusations after his most recent catch. "I want to protect this species." The Outcast Sport Fishing captain who gained national attention this week for hooking not one, but two great white sharks off Hilton Head said "it's just the beginning" of his great white shark adventures this season. Michalove has caught nine great white sharks in the last three years. He's released them all. He's obsessed, intrigued, and infatuated with the apex predator of the Atlantic. Michalove says the sharks he catches aren't hurt in the process. "I've been trying to catch great whites for the last 12 years," he said. "It's taken a lot of trying and failing and studying these sharks, but for the last three years, I feel like I've really gotten the hang of it."

Local News:

Independent Mail: Former Anderson County deputy arrested

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/crime/2016/12/19/former-anderson-county-deputy-arrested/95621812/>

A former Anderson County sheriff's deputy was arrested Monday in connection to a sale of a truck under a lien. Jake Michael Pelfrey, 30, was charged with two misdemeanors, public official misconduct in office and perjury, as well as altering, forging or counterfeiting a certificate of title, which is a felony, said spokesman Thom Berry with the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division in a news release. Pelfrey was arrested along with another man from Columbia involved in the truck sale. Larry La'Dain Myers, 34, was charged with obtaining property under false pretenses, which is considered a felony. He was also charged with false report of stolen vehicle and willful sale of real or personal property in which a lien exists, both misdemeanors, Berry said. Myers falsely reported the truck stolen after he sold it to Pelfrey with an invalid title, though the truck had a \$1,000 lien, according to arrest warrants.

Aiken Standard: Hope for long-term drug recovery home in Aiken County nearing reality

http://www.aikenstandard.com/news/hope-for-long-term-drug-recovery-home-in-aiken-county/article_8f1dc4ee-c3a8-11e6-ba4c-1b5f811acb25.html

Maayan Schechter and Christina Cleveland

Those who have long awaited a place to send their loved ones battling drug addiction may soon get some reprieve. Recovery Road Ministries, a local nonprofit aimed to provide outreach in a faith-based recovery home for both men and women, are hoping to help heal members of its community and break apart Aiken County's growing jail recidivism rate. The organization is beyond its infancy stage, but is currently working to secure a home first for men, then for women. The seven-member board, which includes Millbrook Baptist Pastor Gary Farina, singer Beth Spangler and Capt. Nick Gallam, the administrator of the Aiken County detention center, hope to fundraise \$250,000 by June 1. Farina, the executive director of Recovery Road Ministries, started the nonprofit after providing faith-based help to people in and out of the jail system. Gallam is the president of the board and has 15 years of experience at the jail, where he's seen the issue firsthand day to day.

Post and Courier: Year after son died, Roy Davenport urges tougher penalties for drug dealers

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2016/12/19/year-after-son-died-roy-davenport-urges-tougher-penalties-drug-dealers/95448446/>

Anna Lee

Roy Davenport had just lost his son Scott to a heroin overdose when he shared his story with The Greenville News in May 2015. Scott, 38, was found unconscious March 7 in the bathroom of the steakhouse where he worked. Toxicology results later showed fentanyl, a drug 30 times more powerful than heroin, was to blame for his death. Fentanyl killed 33 people in Greenville County by the end of 2015. Like Scott, many of the victims likely thought they were buying heroin, but got fentanyl or fentanyl-laced heroin instead. Heroin and fentanyl combined were behind 51 overdose deaths that year, a 43 percent increase over 2014. Wanting something good to come out of his son's death, Davenport turned to advocacy. His biggest fear was that Scott would be forgotten. He wanted his son's life to have made a difference.

Morning News: More than \$140,000 worth of counterfeit items seized from Florence Flea Market

http://www.scnow.com/news/article_14debb76-c622-11e6-bb58-bfb9f4246411.html

Approximately \$142,190 worth of counterfeit purses, watches, shoes, perfume, belts, hats and other apparel were seized from multiple booths at the Florence Flea Market on Saturday, Dec. 10. According to Maj. Mike Nunn of the Florence County Sheriff's Office, investigators as well as members of the South Carolina Secretary of State's Office and an independent investigative agency conducted an inspection of goods for sale at the flea market located at 4001 E. Palmetto St.

Investigators allege that several booths offered falsely labeled name brand goods for sale including Casio, Nike, Versace, Fendi, Gucci, Coach, Ralph Lauren, Polo, Dolce & Gabbana and others. "We remain committed to working with our state and local partners to protect the legitimate property rights of these product manufacturers and our consumers who pay money for name brand items," Sheriff Kenney Boone said. "More importantly, most of these items are made in foreign sweat shops with child labor, so the argument that these are victimless crimes is simply untrue."

Greenville News: Public not invited to swearing-in ceremony for sheriff

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/12/19/public-not-invited-swearing-ceremony-sheriff/95610620/>

Paul Hyde

Greenville County's new sheriff, Will Lewis, will be sworn into office Monday, but the general public is not invited to the ceremony. "It's a private ceremony only," said Greenville County Sheriff's Office spokesman Ryan Flood. "It's not open to the public and he (Lewis) won't be doing any interviews or photographs." Lewis will take the oath of office at 5:30 p.m. at the lavish Poinsett Club on East Washington Street, Flood said. Family and friends are invited to the swearing in event, Flood said. Some members of the media are invited as well, but no interviews or photographs are allowed, Flood said. Asked whether it was unusual to hold a private swearing in ceremony for a top local official, Flood said, "This is the way it has always been done to my understanding." Flood did not know the number of people who would be attending the event.

Post and Courier: Boeing looks to further reduce costs, headcount in North Charleston and throughout commercial airplanes division

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/boeing-looks-to-further-reduce-costs-headcount-in-north-charleston/article_f7de1730-c61a-11e6-a9bc-bb9c2534526d.html

David Wren

Boeing Co. on Monday said it plans to offer voluntary layoffs to additional workers in its commercial airplane division, including its North Charleston campus where the 787 Dreamliner is built. "We do expect that some areas will have the opportunity to participate in voluntary layoffs in early 2017," said Lori Gunter, director of communication for Boeing South Carolina. Gunter did not specify which jobs might be affected or how many voluntary layoffs are expected. Gunter said it is too early to discuss the possibility of involuntary layoffs at the company's North Charleston operations. "The entire leadership team is working hard and making every effort to avoid that scenario," she said. "We are working to minimize the potential for involuntary layoffs by reducing our contractor levels, not filling vacant posts and other measures."

Sun News: Total number of passengers increased at MYR, compared to 2015

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article121726589.html>

A total of 106,608 passengers passed through the Myrtle Beach International Airport (MYR) in November 2016, according to a press release from the airport. According to the release, this is an 8.7 percent increase compared to November 2015, which saw a total of 98,088 passengers. Scott Van Moppes, director of airports for Horry County attributes the increase in passengers to a larger demand on both American and Delta Air Lines. A total of 1,858,180 passengers have passed through MYR, year-to-date, an 6.0 increase as compared to the same time period in 2015, according to the release.

President-elect Trump News:

Associated Press: NY businessman, veteran is Trump's pick for Army secretary

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/ba910c981a574d1fa0a7e9d8b517bf24>

President-elect Donald Trump on Monday tapped another billionaire businessman for an administration job, naming Army veteran and fellow New Yorker Vincent Viola to be his secretary of the Army. Trump had meetings planned with a group of businessmen and former U.S. government

officials as he sought to fill other posts, including that of U.S. trade representative. He met with Robert Lighthizer, a former deputy U.S. trade representative in the Reagan administration, an official said. Viola, Trump's choice to be the civilian head of the Army, is a West Point graduate who joins a list of former military men already chosen for the Cabinet. Trump's picks for defense secretary, homeland security secretary, national security adviser and deputy national security adviser are retired military. In a written statement, Trump praised Viola, the son of Italian immigrants, as "living proof of the American dream" and someone who has a lengthy history of engagement with national security issues.

Associated Press: Trump within reach of Electoral College win

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/d56309fad6af452686cef73adcfebf57>

There were many protesters but few faithless electors as Donald Trump appeared to cruise toward 270 votes in the Electoral College on Monday — ensuring he will become America's 45th president. Even one of Trump's fiercest Republican rivals, Ohio Gov. John Kasich, said it was time to get behind the president-elect. "We want unity, we want love," Kasich said as Ohio's electors voted to back Trump at a statehouse ceremony. Thousands of protesters converged on state capitols across the country Monday, urging Republican electors to abandon their party's winning candidate. More than 200 demonstrators braved freezing temperatures at Pennsylvania's capitol, chanting, "No Trump, no KKK, no fascist USA!" and "No treason, no Trump!" In Madison, Wisconsin, protesters shouted, cried and sang "Silent Night." In Augusta, Maine, they banged on drums and held signs that said, "Don't let Putin Pick Our President," referring to Russian President Vladimir Putin. But despite the noise outside state Capitols, inside, the voting went pretty much as planned.

Associated Press: Cities, counties plan immigrant legal aid after Trump's win

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/d128dc51f06941ef8d327647843b322c/cities-counties-mull-immigrant-legal-fund-after-trumps-win>

Major U.S. cities and counties are beefing up legal services for immigrants to help them fight deportation and avoid fraudulent lawyers in the wake of Donald Trump's election and his hard-line immigration enforcement promises. Tapping local government funds to represent immigrants in federal proceedings provides an early example of the type of pushback the Republican incoming president will receive in Democratic strongholds. Advocates call it a matter of justice and smart economics, but some question whether it's a fair use of taxpayer money. Chicago has approved a \$1.3 million legal fund. Los Angeles elected officials said Monday they are working with private foundations to set up a \$10 million fund, while some California state lawmakers have proposed spending tens of millions of dollars to provide lawyers to immigrants facing deportation. New York is mulling a public-private legal fund, building on New York City's public defender program that's considered a national model. "We need to be able to stand by people who are fearful," Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, a former White House chief of staff, said after the measure passed the City Council last week.

Untied Nations News:

Associated Press: UN approves Aleppo monitors as evacuations from city proceed

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/7339f057d0ec4f7082b40decbea8a328>

The leaders of Russia and Iran, military allies of Syria's president, talked Monday about joining forces to reach a quick political settlement in Syria, as the country's largest city, Aleppo, was poised to return to full government control. Syrian state TV said it expected the evacuation of thousands of civilians and fighters from the last opposition footholds in Aleppo to be completed by early Tuesday. The departure of the last rebels from Aleppo would close another chapter in Syria's civil war and would give President Bashar Assad a significant symbolic and strategic victory. Almost six years after the outbreak of an armed rebellion against Assad, the Syrian leader will be in charge again of the country's five largest cities and the Mediterranean coast. The presidents of Russia and Iran spoke by phone Monday to discuss the next moves. The Kremlin said Vladimir Putin and Hassan Rouhani

"underlined the need for joint efforts to launch a real political process aimed at a quick settlement in Syria."

Associated Press: Aleppo girl whose tweets captured world attention evacuated
<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/be231f4926894309b53fba3914ecc492/aleppo-girl-whose-tweets-captured-world-attention-evacuated>

A Syrian girl from eastern Aleppo whose tweets from the war zone captivated world attention was evacuated to safety Monday, part of an evacuation deal that saw the remaining residents of the former rebel enclave head to other parts of the country. "I escaped from East #Aleppo," she tweeted after arriving in Rashidin, an area west of Aleppo, after she and her mother were evacuated from the war-torn east of the city. Seven-year-old Bana Alabed's mother Fatemah set up and began operating the account in September, tweeting on her daughter's behalf, they documented the horrors of living through the government's assault on eastern Aleppo, which destroyed much of the city. Their account eventually garnered some 334,000 followers. Speaking to the opposition-run Qasioun News Agency Monday, Fatemah, said she was glad to have finally reached safety but expressed regret that she was forced out of her home city, and said she did not want to become a refugee.

World News:

Associated Press: Truck rams German Christmas market, killing at least 9
<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/802641a0498f41f3992874934cba4852/reports-truck-runs-crowded-christmas-market-berlin>

A truck rammed into a crowded Christmas market in central Berlin on Monday evening, killing at least nine people as it tore through tables and wooden stands. Police said the driver was arrested nearby. The truck crashed into the market outside the capital's popular Christmas market at the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church. AP Television footage showed a large Scania truck with its windshield smashed out on the sidewalk alongside the market, with a swarm of ambulances nearby. A large Christmas tree with a gold star on top was toppled over nearby in the street. Police said they were still investigating whether the crash was an accident or an attack. But it came less than a month after a U. S. State Department calling for caution in markets and other public places, saying extremist groups including Islamic State and al-Qaida were focusing "on the upcoming holiday season and associated events."

Associated Press: Gunman kills Russian ambassador to Turkey at photo exhibit
<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/dc36fd59c53043afa057da96d01b2a86/russian-ambassador-turkey-attacked-photo-exhibition>

Shouting "Don't forget Aleppo! Don't forget Syria!" a Turkish policeman in a suit and tie fatally shot Russia's ambassador to Turkey in front of stunned onlookers at a photo exhibit. Police killed the assailant after a shootout. Ambassador Andrei Karlov, 62, was several minutes into a speech at the embassy-sponsored exhibition in the Turkish capital of Ankara when a man fired at least eight shots, according to an AP photographer in the audience. "Don't forget Aleppo, don't forget Syria!" the gunman shouted in Turkish, referring to the Syrian city where Russian bombardments have helped drive rebels from areas they had occupied for years during the war. He also shouted "Allahu akbar," the Arabic phrase for "God is great" and continued in Arabic: "We are the descendants of those who supported the Prophet Muhammad, for jihad." Interior Minister Suleyman Soylu identified the gunman as Mevlut Mert Altintas. He said Altintas, who was born in 1994, had been an officer with Ankara's riot police squad for more than two years. Soylu did not give a motive for the attack.

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