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To: Adams, ChaneyChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov
Date: 2/23/2016 7:21:49 AM
Subject: MidlandsBiz: Greater Lexington Chamber names new president and CEO; Colliers announces 2015 Top Producers and Walter M. Keenan Award recipient

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ON THE MOVE IN THE MIDLANDS

Greater Lexington Chamber & Visitors Center names new president and CEO

The Greater Lexington Chamber & Visitors Center announced that Otis B. Rawl, Jr. has been named president and CEO, effective February 29, 2016. Prior to joining the Greater Lexington Chamber, Rawl served as president and CEO of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce.

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Colliers International announces 2015 Top Producers and Walter M. Keenan Award recipient

Colliers International South Carolina announced its Top Producers of 2015 and the recipient of the 2015 Walter M. Keenan Award recipient. [See More](#)

Connor promoted to Colonel

Bill Connor was promoted to the rank of colonel (O-6) in the U.S. Army Reserve during ceremonies at the S.C. Adjutant General's headquarters auditorium, Fri., Feb. 19. [See](#)

[More](#)

The Independent Banks of South Carolina welcomes Teresa D. Taylor

The Independent Banks of South Carolina (IBSC) welcomes Teresa D. Taylor, Palmetto Financial Consulting Services, LLC, as the Executive Director of the Association. [See More](#)

Moore Taylor's Myers inducted to American Board of Trial Advocates

Moore Taylor Law Firm announces that Stanley Myers, a partner at the firm, has been inducted into the American Board of Trial Advocates. [See More](#)

LowcountryBizSC: A Conversation with Tom Tomlinson, Executive Director, The Gaillard Center in Charleston

After five years in planning and construction, the new Gaillard Center opened its doors on October 18, 2015. The Center was built for \$145M split 50/50 between public and private dollars. It's a classic piece of architecture that comprises 80,000 square feet of city offices, meeting facilities, exhibit halls and an 1,800 seat performance hall that will house the Charleston Symphony Orchestra, Spoleto performances, and much, much more. It's beautiful! [See More](#)

Cecil Brazell receives Richard N. Sandler Award

Cecil Brazell of C and C Builders of Columbia, Inc. received the prestigious Richard N. Sandler Award at meeting of the Building Industry Association of Central South Carolina held in February. [See More](#)

Harvest Hope announces 35th Anniversary Gala

Harvest Hope announces that they will be holding their 35th Anniversary Gala at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center on March 11, 2016. [See More](#)

The Best Tips For Interpreting And Seeing Beyond First Impressions

Brian Maynor, Style Coach: "When we first meet someone it's natural to expect them to be on their best behavior: impeccable manners; excellent communication skills, and the perfect blend of relaxed, rehearsed responses with sincerity and authenticity, but how do you know what is real and what isn't?" [Read More](#)

Nickelodeon Theatre hosts Guest Curated Series by National Book Award winner Nikky Finney

The Nickelodeon Theatre, South Carolina's only non-profit art house film theater, will host a Guest Curated Series by Nikky Finney, a National Book Award-winning poet. [See More](#)

Owen of Morton & Gettys joins York County Community Foundation Board of Trustees

Elizabeth Smith Owen, a partner at the law firm Morton & Gettys, has been appointed to the York County Community Foundation Board of Trustees. [See More](#)

Columbia Ranks as one of South Carolina's Healthiest Housing Markets

New York financial technology company SmartAsset released the rankings from its second annual Healthiest Housing Markets Study and Columbia made the list at number 7 in South Carolina, up from their rank of 26 in 2015. [See More](#)

Sun City Produce establishing new Upstate distribution center

The Greenville Area Development Corporation (GADC), the County-chartered organization tasked with advancing the area's economic growth, announced that Sun City Produce, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sun Commodities, Inc., is establishing operations in Greenville County. [See More](#)

Coker College to hold open roundtable discussion for Women's History Month

Coker College's Center for Diversity, Interfaith and Inclusion Education will host an open roundtable discussion in honor of Women's History Month. [See More](#)

McKissick Museum to host free symposium: Shared Traditions: Sacred Music in the South

The University of South Carolina's McKissick Museum will host the music symposium Shared Traditions: Sacred Music in the South Feb. 26 -27, 2016, in Columbia. [See More](#)

Midlands school district recognized for record fundraising efforts

Richland Two employees will be recognized for donating more than \$116,000 for the community during the 2015 United Way of the Midlands campaign. [See More](#)

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Master Minds: Start your own Master Mind

Jerry Bellune: What have churches and civic clubs in common? They are part of something larger than themselves. These offer comfort, joy and a sense of belonging. [See More](#)

District Five schools receive Palmetto Gold, Silver Awards

Fourteen schools in Lexington-Richland School District Five have been named winners of Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards, according to a new report by the state Department of Education. [See More](#)

2016 Gospel Fest set for February 27 in Camden

The Multi-Cultural Committee of the Fine Arts Center of Kershaw County (FAC) announces plans for the annual Gospel Fest and Heritage Tea — a part of its celebration of Black History Month. The Gospel Fest will take place Saturday, February 27 at 6:00 p.m. [See More](#)

Central Carolina Technical College Welding Program unveils 700-pound steel and metal sculpture at Scott's Branch High School

On Thursday, February 18, Clarendon School District 1 and Scott's Branch High School unveiled a permanent outdoor kinetic sculpture titled "Cellule One." [See More](#)

Mayor's Prayer Breakfast to feature Christian comedienne Cherie Nettles

Chapin Mayor Skip Wilson announced that Christian comedienne Cherie Nettles will be the guest speaker for the third annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast on Friday, April 15, at 7:30 am at Town Hall. [See More](#)

Synovus Wins 26 Greenwich Excellence Awards

Synovus has won 26 awards in the 2015 Greenwich Excellence Awards for Small Business Banking and Middle Market Banking. [See More](#)

Columbia Chamber's SchmoozaPalooza

Join area business professionals as they gather for some an early evening of networking at the SchmoozaPalooza. [See More](#)

The Palladium Society 18th Annual Chili Cook-Off

Bring your appetite to Music Farm Columbia for The Palladium Society Chili Cook-Off, presented by Music Farm Columbia. [See More](#)

First Reliance 4Q15 Pre-tax Income more than doubles to \$944,100 from 4Q14

First Reliance Bancshares, Inc., the holding company for First Reliance Bank, reported fourth quarter 2015 pre-tax profits of 944,100. [See More](#)

Shuckin' on the Shoals at Saluda Shoals Park

The 9th Annual Shuckin' on the Shoals oyster roast and auction will be held at Saluda Shoals Park on Sunday, February 28, 2016, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Come [See More](#)

Midlands students to compete in regional mock trial competitions

Thirteen schools in the Midlands will compete in the annual SC Bar Regional High School Mock Trial Competitions on Saturday, Feb. 27 in Lexington and Sumter. [See More](#)

Events around Columbia and the Midlands

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

Political cartoons from Robert Ariail

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

Robert Samuelson: Budget fairy tales

"We have a candor deficit. President Obama last week submitted his \$4 trillion 2017 budget, using the occasion for self-congratulation." [Read More](#)

Kathleen Parker: A South Carolina primer-y

"Out on the hustings, people often ask me: "Can you explain South Carolina?" I just shake my head. It's complicated, I say." [Read More](#)

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