

Quarterly Programs and Issues
4th Quarter 2016 - WRHI

Programs:

WRHI provides local newscasts 24 hours a day from Monday at 5:30am through Saturday at noon. Eight long-form newscasts are delivered in the morning and three in the afternoon. Plus six ninety second updates in the afternoon and evening, and sixty second updates twenty times per day, for a total of twenty seven newscasts per day. WRHI also posts a daily summary news headline page on its internet web site, www.wrhi.com.

Public Service Announcements are aired on a rotating basis, prerecorded. Some are voiced by members of the community. They air daily.

Straight Talk is a locally-produced news and public affairs program which airs on weekdays, Monday through Friday. It is a thirty minute in-depth interview program featuring newsmakers and issues in the news. The program features discussion of a wide variety of topics of interest of concern for the upstate of South Carolina. A complete listing of daily guests and issues is updated regularly and is included on our website, www.wrhi.com.

Examples of critical issues covered on WRHI during the quarter:

Additional charges have been filed in connection with the shootings at Townville Elementary School, the Solicitor's Office said. One of the attempted murder charges has been upgraded to murder after the death of Jacob Hall, Solicitor Chrissy Adams said. The 14-year-old juvenile suspect in the case has also been charged with five counts of possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime. Adams also said a charge of attempted murder has been added after the identification of another child victim. This was a victim that had not previously been identified, so it's unclear how that victim was involved in the events of the day.

A dozen members of the Rock Hill football team involved in a bus crash last month where four people died and dozens more were injured filed a lawsuit Monday against the bus owner and a parent church organization, claiming the survivors suffer from post traumatic stress disorder and other physical and emotional injuries after watching their teammates die. The injured men not only were hurt themselves and suffered emotional trauma, but they “witnessed the injuries and deaths” of others on the bus, said David Manzi, a lawyer for the Schiller and Hamilton law firm of Fort Mill that filed the suit. The 12 plaintiffs include players on the Ramah Juco Academy team and two coaches – including head coach and team founder Bakari Rawlinson. The dozen people filed suit claiming negligence against Sandy River Baptist Church, the owner of the bus, and the Sandy River Baptist Association.

State Emergency Management officials are continuing to watch the path of Hurricane Matthew and urge residents in the Palmetto State to prepare for any potential disaster. National Hurricane Center models predict the storm - currently in the Caribbean as a Category 4-level storm - could hit the Low country of the Carolina coast by Saturday afternoon. Meteorologists say Matthew is a fast and powerful hurricane now, and some models project that it could come very close to

Myrtle Beach. South Carolina has partially activated their emergency management center and North Carolina and Florida have already declared a state of emergency. Continue to listen to local radio for instructions and storm details in the event of a hurricane emergency in York County.

Governor Nikki Haley has issued a state of emergency and issued a mandatory medical and full evacuation of the coast of South Carolina in wake of Hurricane Matthew. Haley says all coastal schools and government offices will close beginning tomorrow and everyone should be at least 100 miles from the coast. Greenville County will be sending more than 200 school buses to Charleston to help get people off the coast and 712 state troopers are assigned to the event to assist evacuees. Over a million people will be evacuated from the coast and lane reversal will begin tomorrow on I-26 with all traffic heading inland at that time. Haley encourages people to leave sooner than 3 PM tomorrow to make traffic flow easier. More specific details on shelters will be available tomorrow. In addition schools closing in over 20 counties will mean no high school football in parts of the state this week. Haley has left it up to the University of South Carolina to decide if they will play Georgia but doesn't foresee the game being played.

The Rock Hill economic development corporation passed a proposal today to launch a website with the goal to bring more people to work in Rock Hill. The RHEDC will partner with a website developer Revenflo to have a centralized place for people to find knowledge economy jobs. The campaign would include billboards on I-77 north with signs saying. You could have finished your coffee...or you could have hit snooze. The website is projected to be up and running by January 2017.

Last year a 110 million dollar bond was issued to the Rock Hill School district for multiple projects. In the next 2 years more of those projects may come to fruition. Kelly Pew...Rock Hill schools superintendent talked about what some of those renovations might look like, saying the projects all together will cost about 22 million dollars.

The South Carolina Department of Transportation is planning to start lane reversals on major highways Wednesday for coastal areas being evacuated due to Hurricane Matthew. Lane reversals are planned from roads heading out of Charleston to start at 3 p.m. on Wednesday. Interstate 26 eastbound will be reversed starting at 3 p.m., with traffic heading away from the coast until the intersection of I-26 and I-77 in Columbia, said Derrec Becker with the S.C. Emergency Management Division. That means commuters in Columbia will not be able to travel I-26 eastbound out of Columbia. However, interstates will be functioning normally northwest of Columbia, Becker said.

York County council could be looking at a major change in its operations after election season. Four year staggered terms is one of the items on the ballot available to York County Voters. York County currently has two year terms and Wayne Wingate, a member of the citizens committee working to pass this referendum said that 2 year terms are not common among other counties in the state.

Volunteers from the Upstate are heading towards the coast into the path of Hurricane Matthew so they'll be there if the worst occurs. 45 firefighter rescue technicians from Greenville County's

Emergency Response Team are leaving Friday. Meanwhile, the Salvation Army in Greenville is already in Horry County.

According to the "Independent Voice," a newspaper that covers Farfield and Blythewood County, Mike Fanning, the democratic nominee for South Carolina Senate district 17 had an inappropriate relationship with a 16 year old female student when he was a teacher at Estill High School. A spokesperson for the S.C. Law Enforcement Division (SLED) confirmed the investigation into the relationship which is alleged to have begun in 1993. The offenses in the incident report were listed as fondling and forcible. Other documents obtained by the newspaper allege that Fanning inappropriately touched two female students back in 1998 at his home which resulted in a suspension from the high school. Fanning defeated long time democratic State Senator Crieghton Coleman in last Spring's primary and is running against republican Mark Palmer in November's general election.

Prosecutors want to try a 14-year-old South Carolina boy as an adult on charges of killing his father and fatally shooting a first-grader at an elementary school. Solicitor Chrissy Adams announced filing a petition Thursday to transfer the teen from family court, where he's charged as a juvenile, to circuit court. Her petition comes a day after the superhero-themed funeral of 6-year-old Jacob Hall, who was laid to rest as Batman. His family encouraged attendees to dress as the superheroes he loved, and so they did. His mother dressed as Robin. Speakers celebrated the boy who imagined himself roaming his small, rural town to save people as others slept. The teen accused of shooting Jacob is charged with two counts of murder, three counts of attempted murder and five counts of possessing a weapon during a violent crime. Family court will set a hearing on Adams' request after an evaluation. Authorities say the teen fatally shot his father Sept. 28 before driving a truck to Townville Elementary School and crashing into the playground fence. Sheriff John Skipper has said the teen began shooting as he got out of the pickup.

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley announced yesterday morning that re-entry into several areas where evacuation orders were given for Hurricane Matthew have been lifted. Charleston County government announced yesterday that residents were allowed to return to Charleston County. However, citizens were asked to be patient since there may still be water on roadways, power outages and debris. Damage assessment crews were dispatched Sunday morning and public works crews have begun debris cleanup. County offices will be closed on Monday.

Trains will no longer be making any noise at the Norfolk Southern Railway and the crossings of West Main Street and West White Street. Last night council passed an agreement to enact quiet zones along the railroad tracks by Dave Lyle. Although the agreement passed there was some pushback...especially from councilman Kevin Sutton.

The One SC Fund started after last year's devastating floods will be available to help victims of the hurricane. Department of Administration Director, Marcia Adams says the fund provides grants to relief and recovery assistance programs provided by nonprofit organizations.

Rock Hill Mayor Doug Echols was presented with the SCRPA Robert L Reid Lifetime Achievement and Hall of Fame award. The award was given to him by the South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association at its 71st annual conference. The department considers the

award to be its highest honor. Echols was recognized for his leadership, vision and support for the construction and operation of facilities including Cherry Park (mid-1980's), the Rock Hill Tennis Center (2005), Manchester Meadows (2006) and the more recent venues at the Rock Hill Outdoor Center at Riverwalk. Other contributions by Echols recognized with the award included his support for: the 2% local hospitality tax; the Rock Hill Parks Foundation; an awareness campaign, "The #1 Question: Is It Good for the Children?"; the Rock Hill Sports Commission and a \$8.1 million local hospitality tax bond for improvements to aging sports tourism facilities.

A father and son have been arrested in connection with a methamphetamine lab they were operating close to homes, businesses and Winthrop University on Ebenezer Extension just off Cherry Road in Rock Hill. Martin Leonard Zalucha, 50, and Nicholas Martin Zalucha, 28, were arrested this week on charges of manufacturing, distribution and possession of methamphetamine, according to records at the Moss Justice Detention Center. They are both being held under \$25,000 bond. Marvin Brown, commander of the York County Multijurisdictional Drug Enforcement Unit reported that the suspected location and the tenants had been under surveillance and once the men were in custody, Hazmat crews responded to clean up the items and chemicals.

South Carolina's electorate is growing at a faster rate than the population at large. A total of 3,134,652 voters registered for the 2016 general election, according to the S.C. Election Commission, a 9 percent jump from the 2,875,221 voters in 2012. Final numbers show a 43 percent jump in Hispanic voter registration, while Asian registration is up 34 percent. White registration is up 10 percent, and the number of African-American voters went up 5 percent.

As over 1000 LPL financial employees are preparing to move into their brand new complex in Fort Mill, Reuters Media is reporting a potential sale of the company. The source who wished to remain unidentified says LPL is working with investment bank Goldman Sachs Group Inc. on a sale process that has attracted other companies and private equity firms. AN LPL Spokesman wrote in an email that as a matter of policy the company would not comment on rumors and speculation.

Winthrop University's Richard W. Riley College of Education <<http://www.winthrop.edu/coe>> has been awarded a U.S. Department of Education grant to focus on English language acquisition. The grant provides close to \$550,000 in funding each year for five years, totaling nearly \$3 million. Winthrop was one of only 49 institutions out of 337 applicants nationwide to receive the grant.

Five people were arrested on 50 drug charges after raids on two Rock Hill homes where investigators seized 33 grams of crack cocaine, 24 grams of marijuana and two firearms one of which was a sub-machine gun. Details were limited but according to Sgt John Rainer of the York County Multijurisdictional Drug Enforcement Unit the raids happened Thursday at 2 locations along Columbia Avenue the names of the people arrested and their charges were not available Thursday. Rainier said the investigation is ongoing.

Rock Hill citizen Jeremy Byers was arrested yesterday after calling a fast food restaurant two dozen times threatening to shoot and blow up the restaurant and kill any officers who responded.

The call was made to jack in the box on cross point drive around 830 PM yesterday evening. After arriving on the scene an officer got the suspect to reveal his name. The police then tracked him to his home address where he was charged with unlawful use of a telephone and placed in the Rock Hill city jail

For the second year, Keystone Substance Abuse Services and All On board York County will present "The Blunt Truth about Marijuana" in November, a program about the highs and lows of decriminalizing the drug in states like Colorado where it is legal. Janet Martini, Executive Director at Keystone says they are working hard to inform our community about the known facts of legalizing medical marijuana and to make sure proper legislation is in place.

York County leaders will be voting for a forth Pennies for Progress referendum on their ballot in the 2017 election. Pennies program manager Patrick Hamilton says there has been a lot of public outcry about fixing roads we already have. Hamilton says state law allows repair projects on the referendum as long as the roads are specified... along with the beginning and end of those roads. Hamilton says the county is also trying to do a better job this time around estimating the cost of the referendum. He says the finance department is telling him that a forth referendum on continuing the local one-cent tax could easily generate 200-million dollars.

Rock Hill police flagged down a man who had 56 grams of weed in his car. The driver, Larrick Burris was pulled over around 9:45 PM on Saturday. The police approached the driver who appeared nervous and sweating. Police saw a blunt in the cup holder of his car...searched the car and found 56.6 grams of marijuana in the trunk. He was charged with possession to distribute marijuana...second offense.

A man was found shot to death in a Rock Hill home on the 700 block of Oleen Cove Road in Rock Hill around 10:25 AM Monday. When police arrived, they found a man dead from an apparent gunshot wound. The victim's identity will be released by the York County Coroner's Office once the family has been notified. No charges have been filed as of late Monday afternoon, but Faris said investigators are speaking with a "person of interest."

A two-paragraph incident report, filed Sept. 29 by a now-40-year-old woman, has led to the state's top law enforcement agency to investigate an allegation of forcible fondling by a candidate for the state Senate. Democrat Mike Fanning of Great Falls allegedly had an "inappropriate relationship" with a female student at Estill High School while he was a Hampton County teacher in 1993, according to a police report filed last month with the Hampton sheriff's office. Fanning, 49, a former teacher who defeated incumbent state Sen. Creighton Coleman of Winnsboro in the June Democratic primary, has not been charged with a crime and denies breaking any laws, according to his attorney, state Sen. Gerald Malloy, D-Darlington. Fanning's general election opponent, Republican Mark Palmer of York, said he was surprised to read about the allegation online. Fanning taught at Estill High School and, later, at Columbia High School in Richland County. He currently is the executive director of the Olde English Consortium, a Chester-based nonprofit that works to promote education in nine school districts and two universities in the north-central region of South Carolina.

Some lawmakers looking to shore up South Carolina's pension system for public workers say transitioning to a 401k-like plan is a possibility. But experts caution such a move won't erase

existing debt Legislative leaders aren't advocating the idea - at least not yet. But several want to explore it. GOP Rep. Bill Herbkersman, the other co-chairman, said the panel will "definitely look" at a hybrid plan that maintains pensions for existing employees but puts new hires into a "defined contribution" system, such as 401k retirement accounts. Currently, public employees in South Carolina can choose that path over a pension, but few do so.

For the second straight year, Winthrop University has seen an increase in student enrollment. The university added 78 additional students to its enrollment for fall 2016, a 1.3 percent increase over fall 2015. The growth brings Winthrop's undergraduate population to 5,091 and graduate students to 1,018 for the fall.

City council passed a rezoning request in order to allow the development of a new administrative office building for the school district. The proposed building would be three stories and approximately 33,000 square feet in size. It would front Black Street with parking to its side and rear.

Christmasville technically got started this week with a kick off breakfast meeting at the City Club on Main Street in Rock Hill. The large crowd celebrated the recipients of several awards including special recognition of our local Santa Dave, and other award winners, Brittney Ellis and Deborah Heinz. WRHI's Manning Kimmel spoke with Toy Rhea, President of the Christmasville Board of Governors, who said the whole community gets together to participate in delighting visitors during the 4-day Vernon Grant inspired festival.

While voters in North Carolina and Georgia have already started early voting, those in South Carolina can vote now only if they meet one of 15 reasons to vote absentee. But South Carolina lawmakers say they'll file bills next year to allow early voting in the state. South Carolina is one of six states with in-person absentee voting, but voters have to meet one of the requirements to vote absentee, like being 65 or older, physically disabled, or unable to vote on Election Day because of work obligations.

York and Chester counties have been upgraded to moderate drought status, while Lancaster County has been bumped up to incipient status, according to the S.C. Department of Natural Resources. York and Chester join 13 other counties in moderate status after state and local experts cited low rainfall as a concern. According to DNR state climatologist Hope Mizzell, some Upstate counties have received less than 10 percent of normal rainfall over the past two months. Those results lower stream flow and lake levels, as well as increase concern over forest fires. The S.C. Drought Response Committee will "closely monitor the situation," according to chairman Ken Rentiers. Local towns and cities in the tri-county area have seen rainfall well below the state average, according to DNR.

Legislators plan to introduce a proposed fix for South Carolina's ailing pension system before returning to session in January. A panel of House and Senate members has been meeting for the past two months to hear from experts and the public over potential solutions for roughly \$20 billion gap in what the state has promised retirees in the future versus what it has on-hand. The panel's chairman Anderson Republican Sen. Kevin Bryant says some hard decisions will need to be made to save the state's retirement fund.

The family of a white man accused of killing nine black parishioners at a South Carolina church is asking for privacy during his upcoming trial. Relatives of Dylann Roof said in an email statement Tuesday afternoon they are "still in anguish and shock that a member of our family could have committed such a terrible, senseless crime" and are "still struggling to understand why Dylann caused so much grief and pain to so many good people." The statement goes on to say Roof's relatives "pray that the Emanuel AME families and the Charleston community will find peace." Roof's federal death penalty trial in the June 2015 shooting is scheduled to start later this month. He also faces the death penalty in a state trial set for next year.

Piedmont Medical Center received The Leapfrog Group's top Safety Grade in the 2016 fall release. The hospital was one of 844 hospitals to receive an "A", ranking among the safest hospitals in the United States. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade uses 30 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to assign A, B, C, D and F grades to more than 2,600 U.S. hospitals twice per year. It is calculated by top patient safety experts, peer-reviewed, fully transparent and free to the public.

Some South Carolina House members are looking at changes to tax laws in the state, including removing the sales tax exemptions that reduce annual collections by \$3 billion a year. Multiple media outlets reported the panel is looking at making property tax changes and also reducing the top state income tax rate of 7 percent. Most on the 14 members of the panel meeting Tuesday agreed changes need to be made. The 2017 session of the General Assembly begins in January.

How strong is South Carolina's voter ID law? Not very. On Tuesday, voters will be asked to present a government-issued photo ID when they go to vote. But a voter who doesn't have one still can a ballot, thanks to a federal court order. In 2011, South Carolina's GOP-controlled Legislature passed a law requiring voters to show a photo ID before casting a ballot. But after a legal challenge, a federal court opened a loophole in the law, saying voters without ID can vote, as long as they can cite an impediment that stopped them from getting one. As a result, voters without an ID will be able to cast a provisional ballot Tuesday that will be counted when the final vote total is certified.

According to the Rock Hill Fire Department Two adults and a child have been displaced after a fire damaged their home on Graham Street in Rock Hill,. The blaze that began around noon Friday caused damage to the kitchen and the laundry room, while smoke damage affected the entire residence. According to fire department spokesperson Mark Simmons. The fire originated in an electrical panel in the kitchen. Simmons said the American Red Cross is assisting the family.

Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright said Todd Kohlhepp, the real estate agent from Moore charged in the 2003 Superbike Motorsports quadruple homicide, will represent himself in court without an attorney. Wright said Kohlhepp, 45, is talking to investigators, and they are looking into other criminal cases. Authorities took Kohlhepp to his 96-acre property off Wofford Road near Woodruff over the weekend, where he showed them two grave sites. Human remains have been found in one, and excavation work is ongoing today on the other. It's the fifth day of the search.

Several fellow officers testified in court Monday as the trial for former North Charleston officer Michael Slager enters a second week. Both testified Monday that the account Slager gave them about shooting Walter Scott was very different than what a bystander recorded on cellphone video. Both testified Slager had told them he shot Scott after the other man got hold of the officer's Taser and pointed it at him. But the video shows Scott was running from Slager at the time. Slager's attorney Andy Savage questioned Lt. Daniel Bowman about what was on the video.

The federal judge in the Dylann Roof murder trial postponed jury selection yesterday after a last-minute and unusual closed door meeting between the judge, Roof and Roof's defense team. Neither defense lawyers nor federal prosecutors objected to Judge Richard Gergel closing the hearing that lasted about 90 minutes. However, lead prosecutor Jay Richardson told Gergel that relatives of the victims in the June 2015 church shootings wanted to express their "frustration" at the unexpected delay in picking a jury. The 40-50 relatives and victims' friends, who were at the courthouse, wanted to attend Monday's closed hearing, Richardson said. Gergel told a packed courtroom of media, public and relatives of the nine people Roof is accused of killing that an emergency concerning Roof had come up. Roof was in the courtroom, dressed in a two-tone grey jail jump suit. He said nothing but looked composed and serious. Roof, 22, is charged with various hate crimes and weapons violations connected with the slayings of nine African-Americans at Mother Emanuel AME church in Charleston in June 2015. He is a self-avowed white supremacist whom prosecutors say targeted his victims because of their race and in the hope of starting a race war. According to Roof's attorneys, he will plead guilty and accept life without parole if prosecutors stop seeking the death penalty. Jury selection, which is expected to take weeks, was supposed to begin yesterday. Gergel said it will now begin Wednesday.

Donald Trump didn't just win South Carolina, he dominated it. Matt Long reports the real estate mogul ended up winning the state by an even larger margin than Mitt Romney and John McCain did. In York County, in the race for SC 5th Congressional Seat Mick Mulvaney defeated Fran Person 59.15% to 38.81%, the State Senate Seat for District 12 went to Mike Fanning who defeated Mark Palmer 53 to 46 percent. For State House of Representatives District 26 Raye Felder was victorious over Jim Thompson. York County Council Seat #1 will remain occupied by Michal Johnson who defeated challenger Keith Brann 70 percent to 30 percent. York County voters approved the amendment for County Council 4 year staggered terms, 50% to 49% Council members Britt Blackwell, Michael Johnson, Christie Cox and Allison Love will receive 4 year terms and the other three council members Bump Roddy, Robert Winkler and Chad Williams will receive 2 year terms until the next election in 2018. Anderson County voted 57-43 percent against 4 year staggered terms for county council making them the only county in the state without staggered terms. Tommy Pope defeated Diane Simmons in the State House of Representatives District 47 race 83% to 16%. The Rock Hill School District Seat 5 went to Windy Cole with 56% to Hank Hammond's 43%. Rock Hill School District Trustee At Large was won by Terry Hutchinson with 78% to Tyrie Rowell's 21%. The Fort Mill School Board will be welcoming their top four candidates out of a field of 7. Kristy Spears 20% Tom Audette 18%, Scott Frattaroli 18%, Pam Martin 17%. The liquor referendums in Chester and Lancaster counties passed by 60 percent margins allowing Sunday liquor sales in those two counties and Alex Underwood was re-elected Chester County Sheriff with 61% of the vote to challenger

Richard Smith's 38%. According to SCvotes.org York County had 167,053 registered voters and 114,331 ballots cast making for a 68 percent voter turnout. South Carolina's Statehouse will only change a little bit after Election Day. Republicans were able to pick up two seats in the House... giving them 79 overall to Democrats' 44. But the balance of power remained the same in the state Senate with 28 Republicans and 18 Democrats. Some history was made on the Republican side, however, as the first openly-gay legislator won a seat representing Greenville in the chamber. Jason Elliott was able to easily fend off a write-in challenge with 84 percent of the vote. Elliott knocked off incumbent Republican Wendy Nanney ("nanny") in the GOP primaries.

An improper left turn led to a man getting arrested on drug trafficking, distribution and firearm charges, according to Rock Hill police. John Wesley Riley, 36, of Rock Hill, was charged with trafficking heroin, possession with intent to distribute marijuana, unlawful carrying of a weapon and possession of a handgun by a person convicted of a violent crime, according to jail records. He remained in the Moss Justice Center on Monday without bond.

State and local authorities are investigating a case of alleged voter fraud in Rock Hill. A 68-year-old Rock Hill man is accused of voting via absentee ballot and voting again in person, according to law enforcement records. York County sheriff's deputies were called to the York County voter registration office on Nov. 1, according to a sheriff's report. The director of the office told deputies a 68-year-old Rock Hill man had requested an absentee ballot on May 27, signed the ballot and had it witnessed on Oct. 12. The man mailed the ballot back to election officials and they received it on Oct. 15, deputies said. Officials told deputies the man voted in person at the voter registration office in York on Oct. 10, just two days before he had the signature on his absentee ballot witnessed. The case was forwarded to the State Law Enforcement Division. A SLED spokesman confirmed Tuesday that the agency had received the request and is investigating.

An 8.1 million dollar bond approval by the Hospitality Tax Committee has led to renovations and future renovations in many Rock Hill Parks. Of those include fencing around Cherry Park, new softball lights, an alternative exit onto Hearn Street...new bathrooms, a new concession area and a new Cherry Park LED entrance sign. The park also has new scoreboards, parking lot lighting and a new PA system. The bond also paid for new lighting and drainage in Hargett Park...a new canoe and kayak launch in River Park...additional parking at the BMX track...extra bleachers at the Velodrome and Catawba Trail restrooms and parking.

The current mental status of accused Charleston church killer Dylann Roof has emerged as a key issue and may delay the start of his upcoming death penalty trial. Legal papers on the U.S. District Court internet site made public Friday make it clear that defense and prosecution lawyers are wrangling over the issue of Roof's mental competency. Roof's mental status is currently being evaluated in a confidential setting.

A Charleston County jury heard Thursday from state investigators who handled former North Charleston Officer Michael Slager's case after he shot Walter Scott last year following a traffic stop struggle. Prosecutors and defense attorneys tried to define the struggle that happened moments before Scott started running down and Slager fired the fatal shots after him.

Part of the issue earlier this week was Slager's Taser, which has Scott's DNA on it. Defense attorneys claim it shows Scott had taken control of the device from the officer. However, Deputy Solicitor Bruce DuRant got forensic DNA expert Samuel Stewart to testify that's not necessarily the case.

Authorities are investigating after someone left black nylon stockings filled with dirt hanging from trees outside a Winthrop University hall named for an avowed racist. A Winthrop University Police report said 12 stockings were found Sunday outside Tillman Hall, with a sign taped over a plaque reading "Tillman's Legacy." Tillman was a South Carolina governor and a U.S. senator. He helped lead a mob that killed four blacks in July 1876 and said African-Americans were barbarians and savages. There has long been a push on campus to change the name of Tillman Hall. Channel 9 was told that some students from an artist's group hung the stockings outside Tillman Hall to continue an effort to get the name of the building changed. Winthrop Vice President of University Relations Jeffery Perez says the issue will be fully investigated and those responsible will be held fully accountable.

An art group has claimed responsibility after police began investigating a controversial display found near Tillman Hall on Winthrop University Sunday. According to the university, the display had a sign with the words, "Tillman's Legacy," as well as a number of abstract black spray-painted figures hanging from branches of a nearby tree. Police say they counted 18 separate stockings filled with dirt and mulch hanging from the tree and were soaked from morning rain. Officials are guessing the stockings were placed in the tree the night before or early in the morning. Winthrop University President Dan F. Mahony released a statement Monday saying, "while we do not know the intent of this display, these images are clearly hurtful and threatening and are contrary to the values of Winthrop University.

Federal officials have ordered a South Carolina church that owned the bus involved in a collision that killed four people to stop for-hire operations immediately. The bus was carrying 46 team members and others associated with Rock Hill's Ramah Juco Academy football team – including about two dozen Clinton College students - when it crashed into a guardrail and then a bridge on U.S. 74 in Richmond County, N.C. More than 40 people were injured. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration issued an order Monday saying owner Sandy River Baptist Church in Chester did not make sure its drivers were properly licensed, passed drug tests or complied with rest requirements. The church's bus operations were "reckless, with almost nonexistent management supervision," the agency ruled. The bus, listed as a private carrier, was not allowed to carry passengers for money like a charter company, federal officials said. The church had no records of whether it checked to see if its drivers had proper licenses, any tickets on their records or whether they had passed drug tests, according to the order. No records were kept on how long drivers were on the road or whether they passed drug tests, federal officials said.

Winthrop University is looking to have 7 thousand students by 2025 with a stretch goal of 75 hundred students. The 1 thousand student increase will be a mix of Freshman...older people looking to finish school and online students. Winthrop president Dan Mahony talked about offering many different venues for people. Some of the planning may include offering more classes on weekends as well.

A competency hearing for the man charged in the Charleston church massacre has been delayed and closed to the public. Judge Richard Gergel issued an order Wednesday to keep the hearing for Dylann Roof private. However, a hearing will be held Thursday to hear objections to his decision. The hearing is to determine if Roof is capable of standing trial. It was to have taken place Thursday, but will now happen on Monday, November 21. Jury selection in the trial wouldn't begin until November 28, which is the Monday after Thanksgiving.

A judge this week overturned the May Clover zoning board of appeals decision that killed a cell tower, planned to be built just yards from homes and a church. Residents had packed two zoning meetings, with signs and loud voices and marches against the tower, calling it a monstrosity among other things. The judge ruled that the zoning board had no evidence whether the property is zoned industrial or residential when it ruled against the tower in May. So the board has to do it all over again. As they did before, when Clover had an illegal member of the board, and the first decision to allow the tower was tossed in January. The ruling means that for the third time in a year, Clover's zoning board will in coming weeks determine whether the town was right to give Towercom a permit, and have a 180-foot tower, or the board may side with the people and determine that the tower should be in a spot where it won't ruin property values or cause other assorted commotions. Whatever the determinations, there's an excellent chance of further debate and lawsuits.

Sen. Lindsey Graham defused his long-running feud with Donald Trump Tuesday by identifying several ways he expects to support the president-elect's agenda, including more spending on infrastructure and the military. The South Carolina Republican, who once called Trump a race-baiting, xenophobic religious bigot, said he would probably support Trump's Cabinet and Supreme Court nominees, and said there were deals to be made with Democrats on issues like replenishing the Highway Trust Fund and amending the Affordable Care Act.

The murder trial for former North Charleston officer Michael Slager has recessed until Monday. Defense attorneys offered their own witnesses for the Walter Scott case on Thursday. They called on a forensic video analyst Grant Fredericks... who criticized a compilation video prosecutors presented that combined dashcam, dispatch audio, and a now-infamous cell phone bystander video. Fredericks said the video used the wrong aspect ratio... making it appear Scott was further away from the officer when the fatal shots were fired.

The Catawba Indian Nation voted this week to halt a proposed \$350 million project with Studio South of Charlotte, but said they will keep the door open for future deals. The deal was with a film producer who would have built and managed a movie studio on the tribal land in Eastern York County near Rock Hill. Tribal administrator Elizabeth Harris said that the project had potential but the bulk of the project and financing plan was not fully developed and the board would reconsider if the right deal were presented.

The Riverwalk area is one of the Rock Hill areas experiencing the most growth and change in the city. From housing to Sports Tourism the area continues to introduce new things. David Williams Manager of GRH Development Resources says Riverwalk has many upcoming projects to add to the area. One of those projects also includes adding a German grocery store named Leedle.

According to the U.S. Attorney's Office 58 year old Robert Fockler was sentenced to 37 months in prison and restitution on Friday after pleading guilty to defrauding his company of more than 285 thousand dollars from 2008 to 2013. While working at Lexmark, Fockler created false invoices to make it appear subcontractors had performed services for the company, evidence showed. To hide the fact that he was involved, Fockler submitted the false invoices to a billing service operated by one of his friends, who then submitted them to a corporation that did business with Lexmark.

Charlotte City Council voted unanimously Monday to approve the city's biggest new development in at least two decades, setting the stage to bring millions of square feet of new office space, thousands of homes and hundreds of shops and restaurants to a quiet corner of the county. Just west of Charlotte's airport, the River District, will rise in an area that's largely undeveloped and forested. Charlotte-based developers Lincoln Harris and Crescent Communities are partnering on the plan, which is expected to take 20 to 30 years to fully build out. Covering nearly 1,400 acres, the River District will be the city's largest new master-planned development since Ballantyne reshaped fields and woodlands on the city's southern edge, starting in the mid-1990s. A complex web of infrastructure will be required to bring the project to fruition, including new roads to handle an estimated 120,000 additional vehicle trips per day, new schools, a new police station and sewage facilities for millions of gallons of wastewater. Preliminary plans show the developers would pay for \$53 million, with the rest paid for by state and local governments or financed through a tax increment grant subsidy. The city's capital investment program currently calls for spending \$44.7 million worth of bond money to improve roads in the area. City staff will fine-tune the agreement with the developers and bring it to City Council next spring.

York police Monday are searching for three men they say ran from a weekend shooting that left one man injured. A warrant charging attempted murder has been issued for Antwain Lamaries Letim Carter, 26, of York, according to Police Chief Andy Robinson. Police were dispatched to McClain Street at 12:50 p.m. Saturday when gunshots were reported, police said. While they were on the way, a dispatcher told police the victim, a 45-year-old man, was in the York Police Department lobby with a gunshot wound. The victim was taken to a hospital, where he was listed in critical but stable condition, police said. Further details about the man's condition were not available Monday. Anyone who knows Carter's whereabouts, or who has information on this crime, is asked by police to contact Crime Stoppers of York County at 1-877-409-4321.

South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley has been selected by President elect Donald Trump to serve as the United States ambassador to the United Nations. Haley said in her six years that the state was taken to new incredible heights...she will always be grateful and never again receive a higher honor. During her time as governor new jobs were brought to every county...the employment rate was cut by more than half...education funding was reformed and landmark ethics reforms were passed that make state government more accountable to the people. US Senator Lindsay Graham said As Governor Haley has recruited and dealt with some of the largest international business firms in the world and is a strong leader who will be an outstanding Ambassador to the United Nations.

Three Rock Hill convenience store operators could face prison time after pleading guilty in federal court to years of food stamp fraud that adds up to more than \$5 million, court records show. Li Fang Phu, Hoang Long Huu Nguyen and Dianne Margaret Phu each recently pleaded guilty to a single indictment in a plea agreement with federal prosecutors, federal records show. The records also show they faced six counts earlier this year. The three pled to defrauding the U.S government Department of Agriculture from 2009 through this year. The department operates the food stamp program. The retailers exchanged cash for food stamp benefits and also accepted food stamps for purchases of cigarettes, beer and gasoline, the indictment alleges. Retailers are authorized to accept food stamps only for food. Food stamps purchases are supposed to be used with a direct transfer card and intended for low- and middle-income families. The debit cards replaced paper stamps in 2002.

Rock Hill City Council passed an ordinance last night approving the financing of the improvement...construction and equipping of certain stormwater facilities in Rock Hill. The city received a 1.8 percent interest rate loan agreement for the next 30 years for four stormwater projects. Completing these projects would require borrowing just below 5 million dollars from the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund. The projects would commence in early 2017.

Days after accused church shooter Dylann Roof was found mentally fit to stand trial, he will now be his own lawyer, according to the Associated Press. Roof made the request Monday to U.S. Judge Richard Gergel as jury selection was set to resume. Roof is charged with killing nine black parishioners at Charleston Emanuel AME Church on June 17, 2015 to “incite racial tensions across the nation.” To be found competent, Roof needed the “capacity to understand the nature and object of the proceedings against him, to consult with counsel, and to assist in preparing his defense,” Gergel’s order said.

Jim Riley will be the new chief operating officer for Piedmont Medical Center. Riley, who has more than 20 years of health-care experience in large for-profit and non-profit integrated systems, has been named to the job according to an announcement this morning from the hospital. Riley will serve under the leadership of Brad Talbert, chief executive officer. Riley has been with Tenet, owner of the Rock Hill hospital, since 1999 when he joined the staff at East Cooper Medical Center in Mount Pleasant. He started his career in health care in 1992 as an emergency department nurse after a 15-year career in law enforcement with the New York City Police Department.

A fire ripped through several Rock Hill apartments earlier this morning leaving around 20 people homeless. According to Deputy Chief Mark Simmons The fire started at 240 AM at Brittany Place Apartments by Herlong Avenue. Firemen were still finishing putting out the fire around 530 PM. The families displaced will be moved to Cowan Farms Apartment Homes on Anderson Road.

An anonymous \$75,000 gift will boost financial support for Winthrop students by endowing one existing fund and providing substantial contributions to two additional existing funds. This gift will provide \$25,000 to both the Historical Preservation Fund, which assists with acquisition, preservation and accessibility of historically significant materials in Winthrop’s Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections and the Student Veterans Annual Restricted Fund, which supports the Student Veterans of Winthrop on-campus organization. An additional \$25,000 contribution to the Debbie Garrick Leaders’ Scholarship will endow the existing fund. Established by John P. “Jay” Dowd III ’89, the award honors Debbie Garrick ’87, ’89, Winthrop’s former associate vice president for development and alumni relations. The fund provides financial assistance to upperclassmen campus leaders.

Hurricane Matthew will cost the state of South Carolina almost \$64 million, even after the federal government picks up most of the October disaster’s bill, S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley’s office said on Wednesday. The Republican governor plans to ask that state lawmakers include that \$64 million in next year’s budget, her office said. Matthew, which briefly made landfall in South Carolina as a Category 1 hurricane, caused nearly \$341 million in public damage here, according

to estimates provided by the governor's office. About \$100 million of that was to state-owned roads.

A court hearing is set for this afternoon in the death of a Charlotte greenhouse owner at his Lake Wylie home. Kevin DeJesus, 22, allegedly in the country illegally from Honduras, is charged with murder in the shooting death of Jesse Campbell, 65, the owner of Campbell's Greenhouse in the Dilworth neighborhood of Charlotte. Authorities say DeJesus was doing yard work at Campbell's home. An employee found Campbell shot to death Jan. 6 in his lakefront York County home, after Campbell did not show up for work. Arrest warrants say DeJesus confessed in "admissions" to police.

Mark Bollinger Spokesman for the Rock Hill police department said police were alerted to a shooting around 11am this morning on the 1000 block of Amelia Avenua In Rock Hill. Bollinger said the victim is a male in his late 30's. The victim was transported to Piedmont Medical Center with life threatening injuries and had several gunshot wounds. Detectives are continuing to investigate and the police have received conflicting reports on the vehicle that fled the scene.

The white man charged with the shooting deaths of nine black parishioners at a South Carolina church wants to stop acting as his own lawyer, at least for now. The request filed Sunday comes a week after a federal judge allowed Dylann Roof to represent himself in the June 2015 slayings at Emanuel AME Church. In a handwritten request, the 22-year-old Roof asks U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel to bring his defense team back on board for the guilt phase of his federal death penalty trial, which begins next week in Charleston. Roof then says he wants to go back to representing himself for the penalty phase.

LPL financial a brokerage firm that opened its Fort Mill campus about a week ago announced yesterday that CEO Mark Casady will be stepping down January 3rd and be replaced by President Dan Arnold. Casady has been with LPL for over 14 years and will continue as the non executive chair of the board of directors until March 3rd. His replacement...Arnold has been with the company since 2007 and has served as president for just under 2 years. The Fort Mill campus plans to employ up to 3 thousand people.

The judge presiding over the trial of Michael Slager, the former North Charleston Police Officer charged with the murder of Walter Scott, declared a mistrial Monday afternoon after jurors were unable to reach a unanimous verdict. A mistrial was nearly declared Friday after one jury said he couldn't convict Slager, but when asked if they wanted to keep going, the jury foreman said yes, so the trial continued. In April 2015, Slager pulled Scott over for a broken brake light. Scott ran from the scene, the two struggled in a nearby private park and minutes later as Scott was running away Slager fired at him several times. Scott was unarmed. He died as a result of the gunshots.

According to Bud Dark who spoke yesterday at the RHEDC meeting Billboards will begin going up at the beginning of the new year to try and get people who commute to Charlotte and live in Rock Hill to stay and work in the city. As of right now 13 local sponsors are on board with the website offering jobs for people who commute to Charlotte. The job website...jobsrockhill dot

com launches next Thursday.

Rock Hill School District officials are now pursuing legal action aimed at settling a decades-long \$4.5 million debt with the Catawba Indian Nation. This past October, the school board approved a recommendation for legal action against the Catawba Indian Nation to settle a debt the tribe owes the district from an agreement dating back to the 1990s. After failed attempts to have the tribe pay off the debt, the board is now going through the legal process to have tribal property sold at public auction to help settle the debt, according to Mychal Frost, director of communications for Rock Hill schools in a published report. Property the tribe owns but is not part of the reservation, as well as funds earned from the tribe's commercial activities, such as bingo games, can be seized. At its Monday meeting, the board approved a recommendation to use the Rock Hill firm Morton and Gettys for additional representation.

Jason Hyatt has been selected to serve as the full-time director for the York County Library system. Hyatt, who has served as the interim library director since August, took over after former director Colleen Pappas was fired amid a board investigation. Pappas was dismissed last summer after an anonymous email sparked allegations of threatening employees, illegal hiring, discrimination and a "hostile work environment." Hyatt, of Fort Mill, served most recently as the headquarters manager at the library system's main branch in Rock Hill.

Members of the Rock Hill City Council took their first look Tuesday at the inside of the historic Lowenstein and an adjacent building, which are part of the future University Center in downtown Rock Hill. The Lowenstein building is more than 220,000 square feet and part of the former Rock Hill Printing and Finishing Company — also known as the Bleachery. The project will cost \$45 million and renovations are expected to be complete in late 2017.

Authorities at Winthrop University have confirmed a case of the mumps in an email sent to students and faculty Wednesday evening. Anyone who was on campus between December 8th and this past Wednesday may have been exposed to the virus. Mumps is a contagious viral infection that may result in swelling of the salivary glands in the cheek and jaw area below the ear. Symptoms include fever...headache...muscle aches...tiredness and loss of appetite. Symptoms usually appear about 16-18 days after infection, and the infection is completely gone within a few weeks.

President-elect Donald Trump will nominate Rep. Mick Mulvaney, R-S.C., to be director of the Office of Management and Budget, according to a senior transition official with knowledge of the appointment but not authorized to speak publicly. Mulvaney had expressed an interest in running OMB, when asked by a constituent on Facebook Oct. 19 where he would like to serve in a hypothetical Trump Cabinet. The announcement is expected to be made on Monday. Mulvaney would need to be confirmed by the Senate.

Can you say three-peat? Derion Kendrick threw five touchdown passes, including four in the second quarter, as South Pointe defeated Hartsville 51-28 on Saturday in the Class 4A championship at Williams-Brice Stadium. It's South Pointe's third-straight title and fifth in 11 years. The Stallions also defeated Hartsville in 2014 for the state championship.

Winthrop University awarded 77 graduate and 244 undergraduate degrees at Commencement ceremonies Saturday at Winthrop Coliseum. President Dan Mahony presided and gave the graduation speech. The university also gave the Kinard Award for teaching to Michael Matthews, an associate professor of management in the College of Business Administration.

South Carolina's members of the Electoral College held ranks Monday, unanimously casting the state's nine electoral votes to Republican candidate Donald Trump despite protesters' calls for them to hold off. Trump was supported by 55 percent of South Carolina voters last month, but the U.S. Constitution gives electors the opportunity to vote for someone else. However, state law charges a fine if they do. Chairman Glenn McCall noted the pressure on electors to change their mind.

The dominoes are beginning to fall as South Carolina State Representative Ralph Norman has announced on WRHI yesterday that he will run for Mick Mulvaney's soon to be open 5th District Congressman Seat.

Two men were wounded, one of them critically, in separate and apparently unrelated shootings Monday in Rock Hill, according to Rock Hill police reports. A 25-year-old man is recovering from injuries after the first shooting, which happened at about 10:29 a.m. Monday on South Spruce Street in Rock Hill, police said. The suspect, who remains unidentified, fled in an older model gold Chevrolet Impala, police said. Police said the wounded man is recovering, but details about his injuries were not available. The second shooting happened at about 8:45 p.m. Monday on Poag Street, police said. A 20-year-old man remains in critical condition from a gunshot wound, police said. An officer who responded to the scene found the wounded man lying over a seat in a blue Mercury, according to the report. Witnesses told police they were trying to leave the residence when they heard multiple gunshots. Police said multiple suspects fled on foot to Cornelius Drive and left in an older model gold Honda Accord. They remain unidentified.

A former South Carolina House majority leader has appeared in court on dozens of charges that are part of a legislative corruption probe. A judge on Thursday allowed GOP Rep. Jim Merrill of Charleston to remain free from jail on his own recognizance. Prosecutor David Pascoe last week announced indictments against Merrill including two counts of misconduct in office and 28 counts of ethics violations. Previous Coverage: Jim Merrill Faces Ethics Violations. The 16-year House veteran is accused of illegally profiting from his position. The indictments allege Merrill's public relations and political consulting firm collected more than \$1 million from clients who hired him because of his office.

Congressman Mick Mulvaney has not left office yet, but potential candidates are already lining up to replace him. Mulvaney is expected to resign his seat in the House of Representatives for a key budget position in President-elect Trump's new administration... although he needs Senate approval first. The first candidate has now signaled he will run for Mulvaney's seat once it opens... Rock Hill Republican legislator Ralph Norman. Norman is a developer who says his fiscal conservatism is no different than Mulvaney's.

A South Carolina senator has now pre-filed a new bill that would give the state what some are calling its own version of North Carolina's House Bill 2. The new bill would ban local

governments from creating laws that force businesses to have transgender restrooms. Sen. Ralph Norman, R-York, is predicting House Bill 3012 won't go far. He said the proposed bill would have a negative impact on South Carolina's economy and doesn't think it will have the support to pass. HB 3012 lets local governments designate bathroom use by biological sex saying that's not discrimination.

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control confirmed a case of tuberculosis at Castle Heights Middle School in Rock Hill. The confirmation was sent out by email to all people with an association to the school. According to DHEC individuals identified as close contacts will receive the recommendation for testing first. Five to 10 percent of people who have become infected with the tuberculosis germ develop the disease, according to DHEC. DHEC recommends that anyone with symptoms seek medical care immediately and tell their physician they may have been exposed. Tuberculosis is a lung infection that can be spread through the air by a person with active TB disease. It can be effectively treated with antibiotics and most people exposed to the germ do not become infected. A 530 parent meeting will be held next Thursday at the school where more information will be provided.