News Agent — 1st Agent (Consolidated Project Notes)

Scope:

This document consolidates all relevant News Agent development work into a single, clean reference. Troubleshooting chatter and one-off fixes have been removed for clarity.

Overview:

The News Agent is a command-line interface (CLI) application (with an optional Streamlit user interface) that collects and filters news from curated RSS feeds. It allows the user to select preset categories, define date filters, apply keyword-based filtering, and export results to CSV or Markdown.

Pipeline:

1. Inputs: Presets (top, world, tech, business, ai), optional RSS URLs, date filters (--since, --until), keywords (parent/child with optional exact match =Term), and result limit.

2. Fetch & parse: Pulls feeds using feedparser.

3. Filter: Applies date and keyword filters.

4. Clean: Removes duplicates.

5. Sort: Orders by newest first.

6. Display: Presents results in a Rich table with title, source, published date, and link.

7. Export: Optional CSV/Markdown output.

8. Open: Optional interactive link opening in browser.

Files:

- app2.py — Final CLI application with embedded "How to Run" section.

- requirements.txt — Minimal dependencies (click, feedparser, rich).

- ui_streamlit.py (optional) — Streamlit interface for interactive use.

Programs and Tools:

- VS Code — open folder and use integrated terminal (Ctrl+`).

- Python 3.x — runs scripts.

- Virtual environment — activate with .\.venv\Scripts\activate.

- Libraries used: click, feedparser, rich, streamlit (optional), pandas (optional).

- Built-in modules: csv, webbrowser.

Reinstallation:

- CLI: python -m pip install -r requirements.txt

- Streamlit UI: python -m pip install streamlit pandas feedparser

Running the CLI:

- Example: python app2.py search --presets tech --since 7d --limit 20

- With exports: python app2.py search --presets ai --since 30d --save-csv results.csv --save-md results.md

- Add --open to interactively open links.

Running the Streamlit UI:

- streamlit run ui_streamlit.py

- Use the sidebar for presets, date filters, keywords, limits, and export options.

Future Additions:

- Preset manager

- --open-all or --copy N features

- JSON/Excel/HTML exports

- Saved search profiles

- Daily automation with email summaries

- Streamlit enhancements: themes, saved presets, pagination

Troubleshooting:

- Fewer results than limit: feeds may have fewer entries in date window.

- Parse warnings: ignored gracefully.

- Save errors: check write permissions for chosen path.