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Governor Nikki Haley News

Associated Press: SC lawmakers to discuss extended credit monitoring

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=tIJsvTJ5

SEANNA ADCOX

South Carolina lawmakers will discuss extending and enhancing credit services for taxpayers compromised by last fall's hacking at the Department of Revenue. The Budget and Control Board could vote Wednesday to seek bids for the next contract covering taxpayers' credit monitoring.

The State: Pocketbook issues key for Sanford; loss demoralizes Dems

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2761156/pocketbook-issues-key-for-sanford.html>

ANDREW SHAIN

Mark Sanford spoke of a God of "eighth chances" during his acceptance speech Tuesday night, but the former S.C. governor's return to elected office owed as much to pocketbook issues as forgiveness.

Reminding voters of his fiscally conservative record in his previous stint in Congress while painting Democrat Elizabeth Colbert Busch as a puppet of Washington's liberal Democratic establishment, the Republican won a comfortable 9-percentage-point victory in South Carolina's special 1st District race.

Hot Air: Former SC Dem chair: I meant to say that Nikki Haley should go back to a dress store

<http://hotair.com/archives/2013/05/07/former-sc-dem-chair-i-meant-to-say-that-nikki-haley-should-go-back-to-a-dress-store/>

Ed Morrissey

Old and busted: Some Democrats are latent racists. New hotness: Some Democrats are latent sexists. And one of them is apparently both. At the very least, the outgoing chair of the South Carolina Democratic Party has proven that he never learned the First Rule of Holes. After having to retreat from his earlier statement that the state should "send [Governor Nikki Haley] back to wherever the hell she came from," Harpootlian tried to readjust the message this morning on MSNBC:

National Review: Democrats vs. Successful Brown People

<http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/347627/democrats-vs-successful-brown-people>

Kevin Williamson

Former South Carolina Democratic party chairman Dick Harpootlian has offered an important clarification of the insult he directed at Nikki Haley, and I am inclined to take him at his word. He wasn't saying: "Go home, dirty foreigner!" He was saying: "Back to the dress shop, little lady!" Understood.

National Review: Harpootlian Clarifies, Nikki Haley Should 'Go Back to Being an Accountant at a Dress Store'

<http://www.nationalreview.com/node/347612>

Andrew Johnson

Former South Carolina Democratic party chairman Dick Harpootlian today attempted to clarify remarks he made Friday at the party's Jefferson-Jackson dinner when he assured the audience that the Democratic challenger to GOP governor Nikki Haley would "send her back to wherever the hell she came from." Many understood Harpootlian's barb to be directed at Haley's ethnicity — she is the Indian-American daughter of Sikh immigrants. The longtime Democratic activist immediately waved off such criticism, and today told MSNBC, "All I'm suggesting is she needs to go back to being an accountant in a dress store rather than being this fraud of a governor that we have."

USA Today: S.C. Dem tries to clarify Nikki Haley remark

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/onpolitics/2013/05/07/dick-harpootlian-nikki-haley-send-her-back/2141565/>

Catalina Camia

While he was chairman of the South Carolina Democratic Party, Dick Harpootlian was known for his "pithy and pungent comments." Now, he's trying to apologize and clarify such a remark he made last week about GOP Gov. Nikki Haley. Harpootlian said he hoped South Carolina voters next year send "Nikki Haley back to wherever the hell she came from" — a comment that many Republicans believed was racist because of Haley's Indian heritage. Haley, South Carolina's first female and minority governor, is up for re-election in 2014.

Mediate: SC Dem Leader Backpedals On Nikki Haley Comment: 'She Should Go Back To Being Accountant,' Not India

<http://www.mediaite.com/tv/sc-dem-leader-backpedals-on-nikki-haley-comment-she-should-go-back-to-being-accountant-not-india/>

Andrew Kirell

Appearing on MSNBC's Jansing & Co. this morning, South Carolina Democratic leader Dick Harpootlian backpedaled on his controversial comments that he hopes that in the next gubernatorial election Gov. Nikki Haley (R-SC) is sent "back to wherever the hell she came from." When pressed by MSNBC to defend his remark, Harpootlian claimed he meant that she would be sent back to her previous profession, and not to her ancestors' country as many have interpreted the remarks to mean.

Washington Post: Ex-South Carolina Dem chairman: I didn't tell Nikki Haley to go back to India

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/post-politics/wp/2013/05/07/ex-south-carolina-dem-chairman-i-didnt-tell-nikki-haley-to-go-back-to-india/>

Aaron Blake

Former South Carolina Democratic Party chairman Dick Harpootlian says that when he told Indian-American South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley (R) to go "back to wherever the hell she came from," he didn't mean to India. "She is not from India; she is from Bamberg," Harpootlian said Tuesday on MSNBC. "She's from Bamberg, South Carolina, where she was an accountant in her parents' clothing store called 'Exotica.' And all I'm suggesting is she needs to go back to being an accountant in a dress store rather than being this fraud of a governor that we have."

The Right Scoop: Oh My: Dick Harpootlian clarifies, says Nikki Haley should 'go back to being an accountant at a dress store'

<http://www.therightscoop.com/oh-my-dick-harpootlian-clarifies-says-nikki-haley-should-go-back-to-being-an-accountant-at-a-dress-store/>

A few days ago Democrat Dick Harpootlian made a very controversial comment, that he hoped in 18 months Nikki Haley's challenger would have sent her 'back to wherever the hell she came from...' Well today he was asked about that comment on MSNBC and he clarified...but it turns out his clarification wasn't much better:

MSNBC: South Carolina Dem chair bashes governor: Nikki Haley is a 'fraud'

<http://tv.msnbc.com/2013/05/07/south-carolina-dem-chair-bashes-governor-nikki-haley-is-a-fraud/>

Michele Richinick

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley needs to go "back to being an accountant in a dress store rather than being this fraud of a governor that we have," the state's Democratic Party Chairman Dick Harpootlian said on Tuesday. Harpootlian, a longtime Democratic leader, last week reportedly told supporters at a South Carolina Democratic Party dinner he hoped in 18 months that Nikki Haley's challenger would send her "back to wherever the hell she came from." Haley was born in South Carolina, and her parents are from India.

TPM: Former SC Dem Chair: Haley Needs To Go Back To 'Being An Accountant In A Dress Store'

<http://livewire.talkingpointsmemo.com/entry/sc-dem-chair-haley-needs-to-go-back>

Igor Bobic

Former South Carolina Democratic Party Chairman Dick Harpootlian on Tuesday again defended controversial comments he made about Nikki Haley (R) -- he told Jefferson-Jackson dinner attendees last week that she should go back "to wherever the hell she came from" -- by claiming he was referring to Haley's past occupation as an accountant. "I apologized yesterday if anyone inferred -- I'm the grandson of immigrants," Harpootlian said Tuesday on MSNBC. "She's not from India. ... She's from Bamberg, South Carolina, where she was an accountant in her parents' clothing store called Exotica. All I'm suggesting is she needs to go back to being an accountant in a dress store rather than being this fraud of a governor that we have."

South Carolina News

The State: Senate ethics plan might solve enforcement problem (Opinion)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/08/2760788/scoppe-senate-ethics-plan-might.html>

CINDI ROSS SCOPPE

The day after the House Judiciary Committee voted to let an independent ethics commission handle complaints against legislators, Rep. Rick Quinn was telling me about his plan, which seemed to be garnering support, to improve the model: Instead of laymen who would just do whatever the staff suggested, he wanted hearing officers for commissioners. It would be a far more aggressive move toward a truly independent enforcement program than anyone had been talking about. My, how things have changed.

The State: SC citizens deserve good government (Opinion)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/08/2760776/benjamin-riley-sc-citizens-deserve.html>

Mayors Benjamin and Riley

South Carolina's ethics law does not go far enough in protecting the public's interest in a fair and just political process. Time and time again we see special interests whose pockets are deep have a disproportionate impact on decisions in government. Equal access to decision makers is essential to our democratic process. Yet citizens continue to find it difficult to have their voices heard by elected officials over high-powered lobbyists and the unreported payments to officials that can create conflicts of interest. It is very reasonable for the public to fear that these influences lead officials to act in the interests of their benefactors rather than in the best interests of their constituencies. The public needs to know who is attempting to influence officials at all levels of government and who is paying them.

Associated Press: SC Senate panel advances ethics reform

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=r57DTOrO

SEANNA ADCOX

A state Senate panel on Tuesday advanced an ethics reform package aimed at keeping South Carolina legislators from investigating themselves and that would broaden income disclosure requirements. Senators are amending what the House sent them last week. Critics pushing for reform hope the continued process leads to a stronger bill.

The State: SC Senate panel: Legislators must discipline legislators

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2760973/sc-senate-panel-legislators-must.html>

ADAM BEAM

When lawmakers break the law, who should investigate and punish them? That's the question the General Assembly has been wrestling with for weeks. If a state Senate subcommittee hearing Tuesday on the issue is any indication, legislators could run out of time this year before they come up with an answer suitable to both the Senate and House.

Post and Courier: S.C. lieutenant governor's race could heat up soon

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130508/PC16/130509383/1177/sc-lieutenant-governor-x2019-s-race-could-heat-up-soon>

Stephen Largen

Lt. Gov. Glenn McConnell is preparing to run for re-election while a pair of potential challengers weigh bids to unseat the Charleston Republican. McConnell told delegates at last weekend's S.C. Republican Party Convention that he would run for re-election, according to reports .

Post and Courier: State Ports Authority board approves legal settlement to clear way for inland port in Upstate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130507/PC05/130509436/1010/state-ports-authority-board-approves-legal-settlement-to-clear-way-for-inland-port-in-upstate>

Tyrone Richardson

The State Ports Authority board unanimously approved a multi-million dollar settlement to buy out a tenant housed on part of the property being developed for an inland port in Upstate. The panel approved the settlement during a special teleconference this morning, agreeing to pay Nordic Cold Storage \$2.2 million to

buy out the remaining part of its lease.

The State: SC budget board hopes to erase insurance fund's deficit

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2761000/sc-budget-board-hopes-to-erase.html>

ADAM BEAM

Officials are closing a state insurance fund, but first they have to figure out how to deal with its more than \$200 million shortfall. The Second Injury Fund is designed to help people with disabilities find a job. If a company hires someone with a disability and that employee is injured on the job, the fund reimburses the company for any workers' compensation claim.

Post and Courier: South Carolina, Israel team up to fund high tech

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130508/PC05/130509390/1010/south-carolina-israel-team-up-to-fund-high-tech>

Brendan Kearney

The S.C. Research Authority and a government agency in Israel each have set aside \$1 million to invest in high-tech collaborations between Palmetto State and Israeli companies over the next two years. The twin pledges are a major part of a research and development agreement unveiled Tuesday during a business exchange between South Carolina and Israel at the Medical University of South Carolina.

The State: State receives 18 applications for new charter schools in 2014

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2760234/state-receives-18-applications.html>

JAMIE SELF

The S.C. Department of Education has received 18 applications from groups wanting to open charter schools in the 2014-2015 school year, according to a news release. Two of the schools would be sponsored by local school districts, while 16 would become part of the S.C. Public Charter School District, which includes charter schools across the state.

Post and Courier: Boeing upfitting interior section of North Charleston 787 final assembly factory

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130507/PC05/130509423/1010/boeing-upfitting-interior-section-of-north-charleston-787-final-assembly-factory>

Brendan Kearney

Add another ongoing construction project to the list at Boeing's 787 plant in North Charleston. According to a county government filing, the plane maker has begun upfitting another 77,000 square feet in its final assembly factory by the airport.

Associated Press: SRS officials: Employee info accessed from within

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/viewart/20130507/NEWS06/305070059/SRS-officials-Employee-info-accessed-from-within>

Officials at the Savannah River Site say an employee improperly accessed the personal information of thousands of workers. The Aiken Standard reports (<http://bit.ly/140XwCj>) that manager David Moody said in an email to employees this week that the information was not ever "improperly distributed" or accessed by a hacker outside SRS.

Aiken Standard: SRS employee stole 12,000 coworkers' information

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130507/AIK0101/130509647/1004/srs-employee-stole-12000-coworkers-information>

MIKE GELLATLY

The personal information of some 12,000 Savannah River Site employees stolen earlier this year was not "improperly distributed," though it was found in the hands of a Site employee. In an email distributed to SRS employees Monday, Dr. David Moody, manager of the Department of Energy-owned site, said the picture of the compromising of personally identifiable information has become clearer.

Associated Press: Hurricane center chief focusing on water hazards

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=T7QXVsaF

JENNIFER KAY

Last year's hurricane season drove home some big lessons, the nation's chief hurricane forecaster said Tuesday: Storm surge and flooding are dangerous and difficult to predict, and sometimes it's even harder to communicate that sense of urgency to the public. It wasn't just high winds that posed a threat and caused damage, said National Hurricane Center Director Rick Knabb, who joined Florida's emergency managers in

Fort Lauderdale at the annual Governor's Hurricane Conference.

The State: SC government website expands services

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/08/2761300/sc-government-website-expands.html>

SC.gov, the South Carolina government website, has rolled out a new contemporary look and some bells and whistles that will be attractive to citizens who want 24/7 access to bill-paying and other services. Ken Oliphant, general manager of the website that bills itself as “the official website of the state of South Carolina,” said SC.gov is ramping up bill-paying through mobile devices, working with local communities to design entry pages for the localities. Already, residents of Cayce may pay their water bills online, and Richland County has cleared the way for online bill paying for some utilities and trash collections.

Post and Courier: Graham-backed ‘Fairness Act’ can help brick-and-mortar stores (Opinion)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130508/PC1002/130509396/1021/graham-backed-x2018-fairness-act-x2019-can-help-brick-and-mortar-stores>

Editorial

I would like to applaud Sen. Lindsey Graham for cosponsoring the Marketplace Fairness Act and for voting in favor of the bill, which passed the Senate on Monday. Additionally, our senator demonstrated his support in a cloture vote on April 22, which allowed this bill to be discussed on the Senate floor.

Post and Courier: Drug czar meets with agents in Charleston to discuss growing meth problem

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130508/PC16/130509380/1006/drug-czar-meets-with-agents-in-charleston-to-discuss-growing-meth-problem>

Dave Munday

Hardly a week goes by in the Lowcountry without a drugstore being held up for painkillers or another mobile meth lab being discovered in a car or hotel room. It’s a trend that is troubling law-enforcement officials all over the country, as evidenced by a national conference being held in Charleston this week to address the problem.

The State: Flashing yellow arrows coming to SC intersections

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/08/2761301/flashing-yellow-arrows-coming.html>

South Carolina intersections are getting a new traffic signal. State Department of Transportation crews are installing a flashing yellow arrow at some lights across the state. The flashing yellow arrow is already being used in a number of places. Drivers can make a left turn when the arrow is flashing as long as the road is clear.

Associated Press: Big-headed ant intercepted at Charleston port

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=2ozH63p5

Officials at the Port of Charleston have intercepted a dangerous intruder. The Post and Courier of Charleston reported (<http://bit.ly/10p8UcN>) that customs officials say they found what is known as the big-headed ant and other insects in a container of aluminum scrap metal on a ship from Costa Rica.

Post and Courier: Big-headed ant intercepted at Port of Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130507/PC16/130509406/1165/big-headed-ant-intercepted-at-port-of-charleston>

Dave Munday

The notorious big-headed ant was intercepted before it could gnaw its way through the Lowcountry. The ants, along with a bunch of other insects, were found April 30 in the port of Charleston, crawling around in a container of aluminum scrap metal on a ship from Costa Rica, according to Steve Switzer, spokesman for the local customs office.

The State: Congaree flooding impacts recreation more than buildings

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2760393/congaree-flooding-impacts-recreation.html>

JOEY HOLLEMAN

As the Congaree River rises to flood stage, the “walk” portion of the West Columbia Riverwalk gives way to the “river” portion. Flooding along the Congaree impacts recreation more than it does man-made structures. People who frequent the West Columbia and Cayce riverwalks will have to find another place to exercise for a few days. Only about half a mile near the amphitheater was accessible Tuesday. (If you’re looking for an alternative, the Canal Walk in Columbia’s Riverfront Park remains high and dry at the flood levels expected this week.)

The State: Scenes from a flooded Riverwalk (Photo Gallery)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2760388/scenes-from-a-flooded-riverwalk.html>

Greenville News: Smolla surprises Furman by resignation

Board names Carl Kohrt, '65 grad, as interim president

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130508/NEWS04/305080016/Smolla-surprises-Furman-by-resignation>

Ron Barnett

Furman University's incoming interim president says he plans to be more than "a caretaker," and the chairman of the board says the school will move quickly to begin a search but take its time in finding the right person to succeed Rod Smolla, who stunned the Furman community Tuesday by announcing his resignation. Furman's board named Carl Kohrt, a 1965 graduate, as interim president.

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SC1 Coverage

The State: Photos from 1st District election, May 7, 2013 (Photo Gallery)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2760893/photos-from-1st-district-voting.html>

Post and Courier: Photos Mark Sanford (Photo Gallery)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/apps/pbcs.dll/gallery?>

Site=CP&Date=20130508&Category=PC16&ArtNo=508009998&Ref=PH

Post and Courier: Photos Elizabeth Colbert Busch (Photo Gallery)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/apps/pbcs.dll/gallery?>

Site=CP&Date=20130508&Category=PC16&ArtNo=508009997&Ref=PH

Associated Press: Mark Sanford redeems career, heading to Congress

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

BRUCE SMITH

In a story of political redemption, Mark Sanford is headed back to Congress after his career was derailed by scandal four years ago. "I am one imperfect man saved by God's grace," the Republican told about 100 cheering supporters Tuesday after defeating Democrat Elizabeth Colbert Busch to win back the 1st District seat he held for three terms in the 1990s. "It's my pledge to all of you going forward I'm going to be one of the best congressmen I could have ever been."

Associated Press: Despite scandal, Ex-SC Gov. Sanford back in office

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=r9e1Kiz6

BRUCE SMITH

Four years after scandal derailed his political career, ex-Republican Gov. Mark Sanford once again holds a South Carolina political office, winning back his old congressional seat Tuesday after a race in which he battled his past and an opponent who outdid him in fundraising. Sanford's resurrection was completed when he defeated Democrat Elizabeth Colbert Busch, the sister of political satirist Stephen Colbert, in a district that hasn't elected a Democratic congressman in more than three decades.

Island Packet: Mark Sanford: The new comeback kid

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/08/2761266/sanford-makes-a-comeback.html>

GINA SMITH

Mark Sanford is headed back to Congress after trouncing Democrat Elizabeth Colbert Busch with 54 percent of the votes, a 9 percentage point victory that dashed predictions of a close race. The big victory Tuesday suggests First Congressional District voters cared more about a consistent voice for limited government and no new spending than transgressions that seemed certain to torpedo Sanford's political career four years ago.

Post and Courier: Sanford gets second chance: On political scrapheap 4 years ago, ex-governor wins 1st district seat

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130508/PC16/130509360/1165/sanford-gets-second-chance-on-political-scrapheap-4-years-ago-ex-governor-wins-1st-district-seat>

Glenn Smith, Robert Behre, Schuyler Kropf

Former Gov. Mark Sanford completed the trail to political redemption Tuesday with a win over Democrat Elizabeth Colbert Busch to reclaim his old seat in Congress. Sanford defeated Colbert Busch 54 percent to 45 percent, according to full unofficial results. Turnout was heavier than expected, with about 32 percent of the district's 455,702 registered voters casting ballots.

Post and Courier: Sanford career revived by the same guys who tried to end it (Opinion)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130508/PC16/130509362/1165/hicks-column-sanford-career-revived-by-the-same-guys-who-tried-to-end-it>

Brian Hicks

Mark Sanford owes more to the state Legislature and the "R" behind his name than to his "God of second chances." A few years back, lawmakers were ready to impeach then-Gov. Sanford and end his political career over his very public personal failings.

Post and Courier: 1st District fundamentally GOP turf

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130508/PC16/130509365/1006/1st-district-fundamentally-gop-turf>
GIBBS KNOTTS and JORDAN RAGUSA

Fundamentals matter in American politics, and Tuesday reaffirmed what political studies have shown: There's a direct relationship between a congressional district's partisan makeup and its vote totals. Unlike presidential elections, where economic conditions and personal factors can have a bigger impact on the outcome, political scientists know that the "normal vote" — the portion of the vote a congressional candidate is expected to receive based on the district partisanship — is the best predictor of congressional election results.

Washington Post: Ex-Gov Sanford Wins Old House Seat in SC

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2761067/ex-gov-sanford-wins-old-house.html>

The conservative electorate of South Carolina's First Congressional District voted Tuesday to resurrect the political career of disgraced former governor Mark Sanford by returning the Republican to his former House seat. Sanford's special-election race against Democrat Elizabeth Colbert Busch, a businesswoman and first-time candidate, took twists nearly right up to the last moments. But in the end, he cruised to an easy victory.

Post and Courier: Sanford's next challenge (Opinion)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130508/PC1002/130509393/1021/sanford-x2019-s-next-challenge>
Editorial

Four years ago, Mark Sanford was widely regarded as a potential 2012 presidential candidate. Two months later, he was widely regarded as a laughingstock — and a political has-been who would be lucky to serve out his final 17 months as governor of South Carolina.

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Hyperlocal News

The State: Gossett, Rawl: Local waste-disposal mandates burden businesses

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/08/2760751/gossett-rawl-local-waste-disposal.html>

LEWIS GOSSETT and OTIS RAWL

At some point, the private sector just has to say "Enough is enough." Government already overregulates and overtaxes, routinely stifling job creation and economic prosperity. Now, we see yet another example of government not only engaging in an activity better handled by private companies but also essentially confiscating property and forcing the business community to patronize its solid-waste monopoly. In 2009, Horry County enacted an ordinance mandating that all solid waste — residential, commercial and industrial — be disposed of at the landfill owned by the Horry County Solid Waste Authority. This ordinance has had negative consequences for the business community.

Greenville News: Greenville city budget shows economic recovery

Raises, fee increases included in \$131 million budget

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130508/NEWS/305080008/Greenville-city-budget-shows->

economic-recovery?nclick_check=1

Anna Lee

Signs of a steady economic recovery are reflected within the first draft of the city of Greenville's proposed \$131 million budget as revenues generated by tourists, businesses and new construction continue to swell city coffers. If approved, the budget would come with three percent employee raises and some fee adjustments, but no tax increase. Wastewater fees would rise five percent and stormwater 2.1 percent, city documents show. Property tax millage would remain at 85.4.

The Herald: Rock Hill considers incentives for small, tech businesses

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130508/NEWS10/305080012/Rock-Hill-considers-incentives-small-tech-businesses>

Don Worthington

Rock Hill is considering creating incentives for small businesses, setting aside money to help attract and train high-tech employees. The incentives would align with the city's efforts to bring attract more technology jobs to the area, specifically the Knowledge Park corridor than runs from Winthrop University, through the former Bleachery textile site, to downtown.

Associated Press: Guns, stun guns taken from Timmonsville Town Hall

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

Authorities say some handguns and stun guns have been stolen from Timmonsville Town Hall. Florence County deputies say someone broke into the town hall building late Monday afternoon. Investigators are looking for a suspect captured on surveillance video.

The State: Columbia City Council OK's money for 800 cameras; police raises next year

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2761116/columbia-city-council-oks-money.html>

CLIF LeBLANC

Columbia streets and parks will have about 800 more security cameras and police and 911 dispatchers will get extra raises in January, City Council decided Tuesday in a political version of a security sweep. Council dipped into six pots of money to get the cash to finance the proposals – \$700,000 for cameras and \$400,000 for mid-year, 3.3 percent pay raises – in next fiscal year's budget for the public safety improvements.

The State: Columbia, Richland County officials working on plan for new joint courthouse downtown

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2761163/columbia-richland-county-officials.html>

CLIF LeBLANC

Columbia might get a new downtown courthouse and city government could consolidate its offices into a municipal government complex that straddles City Hall and the current courthouse, Mayor Steve Benjamin said Tuesday. Talks among politicians in city and county government, the Richland County Bar and the chief 5th Circuit judge – who is the mayor's wife – have been under way for a few months but are preliminary, the mayor disclosed when council appointed three of its members to a working group.

The State: One candidate remains in search for Richland election chief

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2760972/richland-election-chief-and-then.html>

A second finalist for the Richland elections director job has dropped out, leaving just one candidate. Sumter Election Commission director Patricia Jefferson said she sent a letter to the Richland County Election Commission over the weekend, bowing out of the running to lead an office damaged by a lack of public confidence.

The State: Lexington co. taxes may rise to add deputies

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2760975/lexington-co-taxes-may-rise-to.html>

TIM FLACH

Lexington County Council started looking Tuesday at a small tax increase to put a few more deputies on the road. The plan under consideration would generate an extra \$1.1 million for county law enforcement, adding as much as \$4.44 to the property tax bill of a home valued at \$100,000.

Post and Courier: World War II veterans from warship Franklin to gather at Patriots Point

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130508/PC16/130509384/1006/world-war-ii-veterans-from-warship-franklin-to-gather-at-patriots-point>

Twenty-one of the remaining crew members of the World War II-era aircraft carrier Franklin will gather with their families for a final reunion May 17 aboard the Yorktown at Patriots Point. The museum will host a series of events and educational programs throughout the day to allow the public an opportunity to speak

with and hear from the World War II veterans. Events will include a memorial service, special educational program with the veterans and meet-and-greet sessions.

Post and Courier: Perkis tops Smith in race for Sullivan's Island mayor

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130508/PC16/130509381/1031/perkis-tops-smith-in-race-for-sullivan-x2019-s-island-mayor>

Prentiss Findlay

In unofficial results, Mike Perkis won a hotly contested race for mayor Tuesday against incumbent Carl Smith. Perkis received 52 percent of the vote to 48 percent for Smith.

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National News

The State: New stock market milestone: Dow 15,000

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/05/07/2760173/stocks-rise-in-early-trading-boosted.html>

STEVE ROTHWELL and MATT CRAFT

The Dow Jones industrial average punched through another milestone Tuesday, closing above 15,000 for the first time just two months after recovering the last of its losses from the 2008 financial crisis. Good economic reports, strong corporate earnings and fresh support from central banks helped ease investor concerns about another economic slowdown. Many had been on the lookout for signs that a spring swoon would derail the rally, as happened in each of the past three years.

Associated Press: FTC puts background check sites on notice

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/viewart/20130508/BUSINESS/305080010/FTC-puts-background-check-sites-notice>

ANNE FLAHERTY

Federal regulators on Tuesday warned several companies that the quick, easy background checks they are providing online might violate the Fair Credit Reporting Act. The Federal Trade Commission sent warning letters to 10 businesses, including sites like 4Nannies.com and USA People Search, after FTC staff posed as employers and creditors looking for information that could be used to deny a person a job, an apartment or even insurance.

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