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Subject: Clips - Thursday, February 7, 2013

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Governor Nikki Haley News

Associated Press: Ethics reform bills introduced in SC Senate

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=M1iERCy9

Staff Report

Measures to strengthen South Carolina's ethics laws have been introduced in the Senate. Sen. Wes Hayes says the three measures he introduced Wednesday serve as a starting point for the Senate Judiciary Committee. One would ask voters whether complaints against legislators should be handled by the state Ethics Commission. House and Senate panels would no longer investigate their own members.

Note: The measures come a week after an independent commission created by Gov. Nikki Haley issued 23 recommendations for overhauling ethics laws.

The State: SC Senate ethics dean proposes reforms

Hayes wants S.C. lawmakers to disclose all income sources

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/02/07/2621811/sc-senate-ethics-dean-proposes.html>

Andy Shain

A state senator, widely considered that body's dean on ethics issues, introduced bills Wednesday to require legislators to disclose all their sources of income, force political committees to reveal their financial backers and stop lawmakers from policing themselves. Sen. Wes Hayes, R-York, former chairman of the Senate Ethics Committee, said recent scandals and low marks from watchdog groups create an environment for the Legislature to pass meaningful bills and "not just something to make people feel happy."

Note: Four different groups have examined ethics reforms, including a commission created by Gov. Nikki Haley, which released its recommendations last week. Some of Hayes proposals mimic the suggestions from the governor's group.

Post and Courier: Panel advances Haley insurance nominee

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130207/PC16/130209440/1005/panel-advances-haley-insurance-nominee>

Stephen Largen

A state Senate panel advanced Gov. Nikki Haley's nominee to run the state's insurance agency, with the nominee telling senators the department's chief focus is on the issue of coastal insurance rates. The nomination of Ray Farmer next heads to the full Senate, where he is expected to be confirmed.

Independent Mail: Bill would give ID protection to S.C. hacking victims for a decade

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/feb/06/bill-would-provide-10-years-of-identity-theft-sc/>

Staff Report

A bill filed Wednesday would provide 10 years of free identity-theft protection to more than 3 million South Carolina taxpayers whose personal information was stolen in last year's cyber attack against the state Department of Revenue. The South Carolina Senate measure also calls for creating a cabinet-level position that would be responsible for overseeing cyber security for all state agencies.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley appreciates the support that legislative leaders have shown "as we work to make the people of South Carolina more secure," her spokesman, Rob Godfrey, said Wednesday. In her State of the State address last month, Haley told members of the General Assembly that the revenue department has taken numerous steps to foil future cyber attacks. These steps include encrypting data, creating a more complex identification process for the agency's employees and segmenting sensitive information.

The State: SC jobs officials on hot seat over eliminating services

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/02/07/2621827/sc-jobs-officials-on-hot-seat.html>

Roddie Burris

Lawmakers began getting answers Wednesday to a list of questions for the Department of Employment and Workforce and pledged temporary oversight of the department's new plan to streamline services for federal unemployment benefit recipients. That plan, which eliminates in-person unemployment services in 17 DEW offices across the state beginning Feb. 19, has been hotly debated since its announcement Tuesday.

Note: On Tuesday, a group of Democrats scolded Gov. Nikki Haley for the cutbacks, which also include staff reductions in some of the local unemployment offices, though no offices will close as a result of the cuts.

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South Carolina News

Post and Courier: Charleston police: Ashley Hall suspect's gun was bought legally, was functional
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130207/PC16/130209439/1005/charleston-police-ashley-hall-suspect-x2019-s-gun-was-bought-legally-was-functional>

Andrew Knapp

Alice Boland had one previous arrest but was not convicted. More than two years ago, Alice Boland stood at the front gate of Ashley Hall and started muttering to herself. She asked questions about the children who attended the private school in downtown Charleston, according to a police report released Wednesday. She inquired particularly about the 5-year-olds, but she didn't explain why.

Post and Courier: Police: Ashley Hall suspect showed up 2 years ago talking to self
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130206/PC16/130209522/1005/police-ashley-hall-suspect-showed-up-2-years-ago-talking-to-self>

Andrew Knapp

The woman arrested this week on charges of pointing a handgun at two Ashley Hall officials showed up at the downtown school in September 2010, muttered to herself and inquired about 5-year-old children, according to a police document. Alice Boland, 28, of Beaufort was arrested Monday on charges of attempted murder, pointing a firearm, unlawfully carrying a firearm and possessing a firearm during the commission of a violent crime.

The State: Longer state-paid monitoring considered for 6M-plus SC hacking victims
<http://www.thestate.com/2013/02/07/2621751/longer-state-paid-monitoring-considered.html>

Andy Shain

Victims of the nation's worst computer hacking at a state agency would get 10 years of credit-report monitoring under a state Senate bill introduced Wednesday. The 6.4 million consumers, children and businesses whose financial information was stolen from the S.C. Department of Revenue last year now are getting one year of monitoring from Experian. The state paid \$12 million for the service.

Associated Press: Bill would create new information security agency, extend monitoring
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=BsoGfRGr

Staff Report

A senator leading a panel on the S.C. Department of Revenue's massive security breach has introduced a bill that would provide taxpayers 10 years of state-paid credit monitoring and create more oversight of state computer systems. Sen. Kevin Bryant proposed a bill Wednesday creating a new Department of Information Security that would report to the governor. Its chief information security officer would set statewide policies for agencies to follow.

Gannett: Graham proposes fewer federal workers, congressional pay freezes in lieu of defense cuts
<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130207/NEWS/302070015/Graham-proposes-fewer-federal-workers-congressional-pay-freezes-lieu-defense-cuts>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham and other Republicans on Wednesday proposed shrinking the federal work force and freezing congressional pay as a way to avoid huge, automatic spending cuts at the Pentagon. The "sequester" portion of the August 2011 law that raised the nation's debt limit imposes automatic spending cuts of \$1.2 trillion over 10 years — half from defense programs and half from non-defense programs — unless Congress and the White House agree on a less drastic deficit-reduction plan.

The Hill: Clyburn slams brakes on Cabinet talk

<http://thehill.com/blogs/transportation-report/1095-other/281491-congressional-black-caucus-pushing->

clyburn-for-dot-post-

Keith Laing

Rep. Jim Clyburn (D-S.C.) said Wednesday evening that he is not interested in joining President Obama's Cabinet, despite a push from the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) to have him considered for Transportation secretary. The CBC was pushing Obama consider Clyburn to replace outgoing Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood as Obama has been under pressure to appoint more women and minorities to Cabinet positions.

McClatchy: Clyburn advanced for U.S. Transportation secretary

President is asked to select S.C. congressman, citing his 'legacy of public service'

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/02/07/2621766/clyburn-advanced-for-us-transportation.html#.URO4iWfFzdU>

James Rosen

The head of the Congressional Black Caucus is urging President Barack Obama to nominate House Assistant Democratic Leader Jim Clyburn of Columbia to become the next U.S. secretary of transportation. U.S. Rep. Marcia Fudge of Ohio, chairwoman of the group of African-American lawmakers, made the request in a letter to Obama on Monday, a copy of which was obtained by McClatchy.

The State: Andy Patrick: A father who would go to Congress

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130207/PC16/130209434/1005/andy-patrick-a-father-who-would-go-to-congress>

Robert Behre

State Rep. Andy Patrick of Hilton Head Island said he is proud of his work in law enforcement, with the Secret Service and at the Statehouse in Columbia, but none contain the title he cherishes most: Dad. The father of five is relatively new to politics, at least as far as running for office himself.

Associated Press: DHEC chief: Restrict food stamp items, cut obesity

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=TsvpTF10

Meg Kinnard

Putting restrictions on what people can buy with food stamps might be a way to cut down on South Carolina's growing obesity problem, the state's public health chief said Wednesday. "I'm rather astonished that nobody has ever proposed it," Department of Health and Environmental Control director Catherine Templeton told The Associated Press. "This is just a tiny part of the obesity epidemic."

WLTX: Changes Could Be Coming to Food Stamps Program

<http://www.wltx.com/news/story.aspx?storyid=220230>

Tony Santaella

Some changes may soon be coming to the food stamps program. State leaders are asking the federal government to make changes to the list on what's acceptable to buy on the program. They would like to only allow the food stamps to be used on items that are nutritious like eggs, milk and whole grains.

Note: "Right now the USDA has a number of arguments about why they don't want to make changes to the program," explains Catherine Templeton, the director the State Department of Health and Environmental Control. "One of them is the difficulty in administering it. What would be on the list? One thing that's very important: I'm not asking for the government to be the food police, all I'm saying is that we shouldn't be paying for bad food we shouldn't incentivize empty calories."

Associated Press: House approves bill creating shorter SC session

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=amxLy7m3

Staff Report

South Carolina's regular legislative session would last just three months each year under a measure tentatively approved by the House. The House voted 91-9 to ask voters whether legislators should cut two months from their yearly sessions in the Statehouse.

The State: SC House approves shortening legislative session

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/02/07/2621828/sc-house-approves-shortening-legislative.html#.URO45mfFzdU>

Jamie Self

A proposal to shorten the state's legislative session, which advanced in the House on Wednesday, may stand a chance of passing this year, Republican leaders say. House Majority Leader Bruce Bannister, R-Greenville, is sponsoring the bill with several other lawmakers, including House Speaker Bobby Harrell, R-

Charleston. The bill calls for a constitutional amendment, which two-thirds of House and Senate members must approve. The question then would go to voters to decide. The House gave second reading approval to the bill Wednesday by a 91-9 margin. The House will read the bill one more time before sending it to the Senate.

Associated Press: SC House advances bill on control of court dockets

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=9JwkvFvF

Staff Report

The South Carolina House has approved a bill returning control of court dockets to prosecutors. The bill approved 96-14 on Wednesday adds protections to solicitors' control. It removes the word "exclusively" from state law. It also specifies that prosecutors' management of the docket can't interfere with anyone's rights to a speedy and public trial.

The State: House sends texting ban back to committee

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/02/07/2621768/sc-political-briefs-house-sends.html>

Jamie Self: A bill that would make texting while driving illegal was sent back to committee Wednesday as House members sidestepped voting on it. Proposed by state Rep. Don Bowen, R-Anderson, the bill would outlaw using electronic communication devices while driving and impose penalties when texting leads to traffic violations or accidents.

The State: SC ethics reform bills would cut PACs, move complaints

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/02/06/2621387/sc-ethics-reform-bills-would-cut.html#.URO5CWfFzdU>

Andy Shain

State Sen. Wes Hayes, R-York, introduced ethics-reform bills Wednesday that would force political committees to submit expense reports, ban leadership PACs and have the S.C. Ethics Commission hear complaints against state lawmakers. Hayes, who chaired the Senate ethics committee last year, was the target of attacks from a committee that did not have to reveal its backers or spending since courts ruled the state's definition of a political groups as too broad.

Post and Courier: Charleston, Dorchester 2 school buses expected to run regular routes Thursday

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130207/PC16/130209433/1005/charleston-dorchester-2-school-buses-expected-to-run-regular-routes-thursday>

Diette Courrage Casey

Negotiations between Durham School Services and the bus drivers' union are continuing, and Charleston and Dorchester 2 school buses are expected to run their regular routes today. Neither the drivers' union nor the company released any new information Wednesday, but Charleston school officials said they were told talks were ongoing and buses would run.

Associated Press: Medicaid expansion to be debated in Anderson

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=676las2e

Staff Report

The man who runs South Carolina's Medicaid program and the director of a hospital in Anderson will debate whether the state should accept federal money to expand Medicaid. The discussion is part of a breakfast meeting scheduled for Thursday morning with the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce.

Associated Press: South Carolina legislator acknowledges DUI charge

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=yFWUk5J2

Seanna Adcox

A South Carolina legislator acknowledged Wednesday that he faces a drunken driving charge from a stop along Interstate 77 last October. Rep. Bakari Sellers, D-Denmark, told The Associated Press that a sheriff's deputy stopped him in Chester County after the South Carolina-Georgia football game in Columbia. He said he was headed to Charlotte, N.C., after the Oct. 6 night game - which the Gamecocks won 35-7 - "to spend time with my family and go to church the next day."

The State: SC state Rep. Bakari Sellers facing DUI charges

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/02/06/2621689/sc-state-representative-facing.html>

Andy Shain

State Rep. Bakari Sellers, considered a rising South Carolina Democratic star, said Wednesday that he was pulled over for driving under the influence after a South Carolina football game last fall. Sellers said he

declined to take a breathalyzer test when sheriff's deputies stopped him on Interstate 77 in Chester County on Oct. 7 hours after the Gamecocks beat Georgia 35-7. Sellers, an attorney who lives in Bamberg County south of Columbia, said he was traveling to visit family in Charlotte.

Post and Courier: State Rep. Bakari Sellers charged with DUI

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130207/PC16/130209454/1005/state-rep-bakari-sellers-charged-with-dui>

Stephen Largen

Denmark Democratic Rep. Bakari Sellers was charged with driving under the influence after leaving a University of South Carolina football game in October 2012, he confirmed Wednesday evening. Sellers, a 28-year-old attorney, was charged by the Chester County Sheriff's Office with a first-offense DUI on Oct. 7, court records show.

Associated Press: SC unemployment agency wants to charge penalty

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=VFwpP1SM

Staff Report

South Carolina's unemployment agency wants to charge anyone who fraudulently receives unemployment benefits a 25 percent penalty, in addition to paying the money back. Department of Employment and Workforce officials asked a Senate panel Wednesday for legislation that mandates a penalty higher than federal law requires.

Associated Press: Measure means raffles could become legal in SC

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

Seanna Adcox

Church cake walks and quilt raffles may finally become legal in South Carolina, as gambling opponents who've long blocked raffle-enabling legislation are giving a thumbs-up to the latest version. Schools, churches and other nonprofits could hold a limited number of regulated raffles yearly under legislation advanced Wednesday by a Senate panel. Voters must first approve changing the state constitution to allow it. The panel approved a separate measure that puts that question before voters in November 2014. The law would then take effect in 2015.

Post and Courier: Bus drivers' union, Durham still haven't reached deal, both will partake in negotiations again today

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130207/PC16/130209420/1005/bus-drivers-x2019-union-durham-still-haven-x2019-t-reached-deal-both-will-partake-in-negotiations-again-today>

Diette Courrage Casey

Durham School Services says it's back at the bargaining table today with the school bus drivers' union, and it was looking forward to "continued progress." The company that employs school bus drivers in Charleston and Dorchester 2 said it would be in touch later in the day with any "appropriate updates."

The State: USC fundraising chief is leaving position

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/02/07/2621836/usc-fundraising-chief.html#.URO44GfFzdU>

Andy Shain

Michelle Dodenhoff, who has helped raise more than \$900 million in eight years at the University of South Carolina, is heading back to her hometown of New Orleans. "This was a very difficult decision, as I see myself as a Gamecock through and through," Dodenhoff, USC's vice president of development and alumni relations, wrote in a letter sent to school administrators. "In the end, my decision was based on the needs of my family." USC president Harris Pastides said Dodenhoff built a strong team. She added 10 fundraisers and bolstered the experience on USC's fundraising staff.

Post and Courier: Florida developer Zahn named in S.C. State case; set for plea hearing Friday

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130207/PC16/130209431/1005/florida-developer-zahn-named-in-sc-state-case-set-for-plea-hearing-friday>

Glenn Smith

Florida developer Richard Zahn is scheduled to enter a plea in federal court Friday in connection with an alleged scheme to sell property he owns to South Carolina State University in exchange for kickbacks to school officials. Federal prosecutors this week formally named Zahn in court papers tying him to the corruption case. They mentioned Zahn's alleged involvement during a hearing last month, but he had been referred to in court documents only as "Person A."

The State: Midlands supports United Way at record level (Opinion)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/02/07/2621555/editorial-midlands-supports-united.html#.URO41mfFzdU>

Editorial

With the economy still at a crawl, more and more families and individuals are seeking aid, but many charities are struggling to meet the burgeoning needs because giving has been stagnant or down. As unfortunate as it is, it isn't surprising that charitable donations have contracted in these uncertain times. People tend to give less, choosing to squirrel away any extra money they might have so they'll be prepared to weather any personal financial storm that might blow their way.

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Hyperlocal News

Greenville News: Home Depot hiring 270 locally

Retailer filling 80,000 positions nationwide

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130207/BUSINESS/302070016/Home-Depot-hiring-270-locally>

Staff reports

The Home Depot, the home improvement retailer, said Wednesday it has begun filling more than 80,000 seasonal positions, including 270 in the Greenville area. Job seekers can begin applying online now at www.careers.homedepot.com, the company said. Home Depot said it annually adds seasonal jobs as it approaches the spring selling season, its peak season, and said it is hiring 10,000 more workers this year as it anticipates sales growth.

Post and Courier: Boeing's North Charleston employees to receive sizable bonuses

<http://postandcourier.com/article/20130206/PC05/130209527/1165/boeing-x2019-s-north-charleston-employees-to-receive-sizable-bonuses>

Staff Report

Boeing South Carolina employees will receive a bonus equivalent to almost 18 days of pay at the end of this month to reward them for the company's and the North Charleston complex's performance last year. Candy Eslinger, spokeswoman for the aerospace giant's local plant, confirmed the site's incentive plan "will pay all eligible direct hire Boeing South Carolina teammates 17.95 days of pay."

Post and Courier: Charleston won't see biggest cruise ships, expert says

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130207/PC16/130209437/1005/charleston-won-x2019-t-see-biggest-cruise-ships-expert-says>

Robert Behre

The largest cruise ships plying the seas, the Oasis class that can carry up to 8,400 passengers and crew and is run by Royal Caribbean Lines, will never call on Charleston. That was the guarantee offered by a keynote speaker in a three-day symposium that began Wednesday night in Charleston. The approximately 150 attendees offered up some soft applause at the news.

Associated Press: International cruise conference under way in Charleston

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=DAPDe3Le

Bruce Smith

A conference under way in Charleston is dealing with the impacts of cruise ships on historic port communities worldwide. The three-day meeting is focusing on how to balance the benefits that cruises bring against their potential impacts of congestion and pollution. It's a debate that has been raging from Mobile, Ala., to Venice, Italy.

Post and Courier: Local midwife to testify before Congress

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130207/PC16/130209432/1005/local-midwife-to-testify-before-congress>

Lauren Sausser

A Charleston midwife will make a case on Capitol Hill today that more midwives and more midwife-assisted birth centers would save the country a lot of money. Lesley Rathbun, owner of Charleston Birth Place and president-elect of the American Association of Birth Centers, is scheduled to speak during a congressional hearing about a new study showing that women who seek prenatal care with a midwife at a birth center are less likely to require a cesarean section during delivery than women who give birth in hospitals.

Greenville News: North Greenville University to announce major gift, new campaign goal
<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130207/NEWS/302070036/North-Greenville-University-announce-major-gift-new-campaign-goal>

Angelia Davis

North Greenville University plans to announce its largest single monetary donation from an Upstate benefactor. University leaders said the gift has enabled it to surpass its five-year \$25 million GIFT God Capital Campaign goal in less than three years.

Associated Press: Coast Guard dedicating Georgetown building
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=mZFddiSg

Staff Report

The U.S. Coast Guard has a new building at its complex in Georgetown. The building housing the aids to navigation operation is being dedicated on Thursday by Capt. Michael White, the commander of Coast Guard Sector Charleston.

Associated Press: SELC releases 'most endangered' Southeast places
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=hZZcyh32

Staff Report

The Southern Environmental Law Center is out with its latest endangered places in the Southeast and there are some familiar names among the top 10...Other entries include an unlined coal ash pond near Myrtle Beach, S.C., that is leaking levels of arsenic; and plans for reservoirs in the Atlanta area that the SELC says are not needed and threaten water supplies downstream.

Associated Press: SC ETV to air documentary on Harvey Gantt
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=FDhulKAa

Staff Report

The first black man to attend Clemson University is the subject of a new documentary on South Carolina Educational Television. On Thursday, SC ETV is airing "The Education of Harvey Gantt." Gantt was granted admission to Clemson in 1963 after suing the school. He graduated with honors in 1965 and went on to work for a Charlotte, N.C. architecture firm. Gantt became Charlotte's first black mayor in 1983 and unsuccessfully ran for the U.S. Senate in North Carolina in 1996.

The State: ETV film chronicles Gantt's journey
<http://www.thestate.com/2013/02/07/2621764/etv-film-chronicles-gantts-journey.html>

Otis R. Taylor Jr.

Harvey Gantt had local support when he integrated Clemson University 50 years ago. "When I got to the door of the dining room, there was, I was greeted by an African-American," Gantt says in "The Education of Harvey Gantt," ETV's documentary film that premieres tonight. "And he was just very gracious." All the cafeteria workers serving the students were black, Gantt recalls of his first visit to the campus dining hall in January 1963.

Post and Courier: Town hall meeting tonight on Charleston tax hike plan
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130207/PC16/130209421/1005/town-hall-meeting-tonight-on-charleston-tax-hike-plan>

Staff Report

Citizens tonight will have a chance to share their views about Charleston Mayor Joe Riley's proposed tax hike to help fund putting police in local elementary schools. A downtown Charleston city councilman is holding a town hall meeting for constituents to ask questions about the plan. Councilman Mike Seekings is sponsoring the event beginning at 6 p.m. at 75 Calhoun St., on the 3rd Floor.

Greenville News: Meals on Wheels raises funds at annual Sweetheart Charity Ball
<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130207/NEWS/302070021/Meals-Wheels-raises-funds-annual-Sweetheart-Charity-Ball>

Staff Report

Meals on Wheels of Greenville hosted its 18th annual Sweetheart Charity Ball at the newly renovated Hyatt Regency Downtown raising funds for more than 30,000 meals for the homebound in Greenville County. "We are thankful for our long-standing partnership with our presenting sponsor, BB&T, who helped make this event a tremendous success," Liz Seman, executive director of Meals on Wheels said.

The State: Hunting proposed for Baruch nature preserve on SC coast

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/02/06/2621523/hunting-proposed-for-baruch-nature.html>

Sammy Fretwell and Joey Holleman

Wild hogs and other nuisance wildlife are such a problem at a widely regarded coastal preserve that property managers want state permission to expand hunting on the 17,500-acre Baruch Foundation land north of Georgetown. The property is home to the Baruch Marine Laboratory, an internationally known scientific research site operated by the University of South Carolina. Clemson University also has a research agreement to use the Baruch Foundation preserve for forest and wildlife research.

Post and Courier: Trial underway for former councilman accused of exposing himself and shooting off gun

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130207/PC16/130209422/1005/trial-underway-for-former-councilman-accused-of-exposing-himself-and-shooting-off-gun>

Staff Report

The trial is underway for a 67-year-old Mount Pleasant man accused of shooting a gun and exposing himself in a marsh near Shem Creek in 2011. The trial for Robert Harvey Payne, of Bayview Drive, began on Monday in a Charleston County Circuit courtroom. On May 29, 2011, police received a call about a man walking around drunk and naked in the marsh near the Bayview Acres subdivision. When police arrived that night at about 7:10 p.m. they found Payne in the marsh carrying a shotgun and wearing swim trunks, according to an incident report. While officers were there, they heard a gunshot, then saw Payne walking toward them while holding the gun with the barrel pointed in the air, the report stated.

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National News

Greenville News: Mexico seen as threat to Southeast auto industry

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130207/BUSINESS/302070014/Mexico-seen-threat-Southeast-auto-industry>

Rudolph Bell

Mexico has emerged as the Southeast's No. 1 competitor for automotive jobs, and industry experts are urging the region's automotive companies and their allies to band together to meet the growing challenge. The experts say Mexico has recently replaced the Southeast as the North American region with the fastest-growing automotive industry, drawing \$11 billion in investment over 2010, 2011 and 2012, compared with \$7.5 billion for the Southeast over the same period.

The State: Saturday mail delivery ending

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/02/07/2621754/saturday-mail-delivery-ending.html>

Staff Report

The financially struggling U.S. Postal Service is getting creative in its efforts to cut costs. The service rolled out a plan Wednesday to cut mail delivery on Saturdays starting in August; package delivery – a growing segment for the post office – would continue on Saturdays. The savings would amount to about \$2 billion a year, officials said.

New York Times: Obama's Choice to Lead Interior Dept. Has Oil Sector and Conservation Credentials

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/07/us/politics/obama-chooses-rei-executive-to-lead-interior-dept.html>

John M. Broder

President Obama on Wednesday nominated Sally Jewell, the chief executive of Recreational Equipment Inc., to lead the Interior Department, with a vow that she will balance the agency's sometimes conflicting mandates to promote resource development and preserve the nation's natural heritage. If confirmed, Ms. Jewell, a former oil company engineer and longtime advocate for conservation and outdoor recreation, will take over a department that has been embroiled in controversy over the regulation of oil and gas on public lands and in the Gulf of Mexico and Arctic Ocean. She also will be the steward of hundreds of millions of acres of public lands, from the Everglades of Florida to the Cascades of Washington State.

Bloomberg News: Boeing probe results still 'weeks away'

NTSB chief's comments suggest 787s will stay grounded in the near future

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/viewart/20130207/BUSINESS/302060133/Boeing-probe-results-still-weeks-away->

Jeff Plunqis

Investigators are "weeks away" from determining what caused battery failures on Boeing's grounded 787

Dreamliner jet, the head of the National Transportation Safety Board said. "We are going to have some information tomorrow, but I think we are probably weeks away from being able to tell people 'here's what exactly happened and what needs to change,'"Chairman Deborah Hersman said at a breakfast Wednesday with reporters in Washington.

CNN: Panetta to recommend pay cut for military

<http://security.blogs.cnn.com/2013/02/06/first-on-cnn-panetta-to-recommend-pay-cut-for-military/>

Barbara Starr

Just days before he leaves office, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta is recommending military pay be limited, effectively decreasing troop salaries next year. Panetta will recommend to Congress that military salaries be limited to a 1% increase in 2014. The Pentagon has calculated that the Labor Department's 2014 Employment Cost Index is expected to be above 1% but wants to still cut back on pay because of "budget uncertainties," a department official told CNN. In 2013, a 1.7% increase was approved, based on the index, which has been the basis for military pay for the last several years.

Associated Press: United cuts 787 from February schedule

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=tsUvS606

Staff Report

United Airlines is taking the troubled Boeing 787 out of its flying plans for the rest of this month. United says it has replaced its six 787s with other planes. U.S. regulators grounded the 787s last month after two battery incidents.

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