PROGRAMS PROVIDING MOST SIGNIFICANT TREATMENT OF COMMUNITY ISSUES

Business and Economic Development

(including need for high tech companies in the state, poor labor market for economic development)

WACH FOX NEWS AT 10

SLUG: ECONOMY

January 20

10-10:35 PM

A new report out tonight shows America's manufacturing companies are enjoying its best month in two decades. While South Carolina companies are falling behind. The "state employment security commission" says our numbers continue to fall. In the past year South Carolina has lost nearly 19-thousand jobs in manufacturing.

WACH FOX NEWS AT 10

SLUG: LOTTERY

January 7

10-10:35 PM

The South Carolina education lottery is celebrating its second birthday tonight. Officials cut a birthday cake at lottery headquarters this morning. Leaders say in the lottery's two years. State schools have pocketed almost 430 million dollars from ticket sales. Total sales are more than one and a half billion dollars. And most of that money is local.

WACH FOX NEWS AT 10

SLUG: BUDGET RELEASED January 8

10-10:35 PM

Covernor Mark Sanford's first budget proposal is out tonight. And it's a plan he says could nearly eliminate the state deficit. The plan substitution is state agencies and consolidates many others. The budget does increase spending for education, state prisons and healthcar And the governor also says his plan does it without raising taxes. Part of the plan includes selling off surplus state property that Sanford says could save the state millions. I think that what you've got to do and these are tough budget times and they force these decisions, is to look at what are the core functions of government? The governor's budget also proposes the creation of an inspector general to eliminate waste and abuse and proposes having the governor and lieutenant governor run on the same ticket. healthcare

WACH FOX NEWS AT 10

SLUG: HOSPITAL

January 8

10-10:35 PM

Palmetto health has plans to build a new hospital in the Irmo area. It would go up next to the New Palmetto Health Parkridge facility along I-26. The company is asking the city of Columbia to rezone 70 acres along Parkridge drive for the new hospital.

WACH FOX NEWS AT 10

SLUG: JOBS

January 21

10-10:35 PM

A grand strand company is moving to Columbia and bringing dozens of new jobs with it. Uni-trends Software Corporation is moving its headquarters from Myrtle Beach. A company representative joined Columbia Mayor Bob Coble to make the announcement this morning. Uni-trends is a data protection company and will set up shop in the "Carolina Research Park." It expects to hire up to 45 people by the end of the year

WACH FOX NEWS AT 10

SLUG: BOSCH LAYOFF January 24

10-10:35 PM

By the middle of next year those 4-hundred affected employees will be forced to look for another job. Company officials blame the lay-off on not being able to make high profits during an economic slump. Bosch plans to move the "brake manufacturing" section of the plant to Mexico. One worker tells us, company officials read a 5 minute statement about the lay-off. Some workers cried. Many are now devastated. One employee, who talked with us, wanted to hide her identity for fear of ridicule. We were a family not just employees. They said they will look after us, 1 for all and all for 1 but it doesn't seem that way Monday. Bosch officials will meet with employees to discuss job possibilities and severance packages

WACH FOX NEWS AT 10

SLUG: BOSCH

January 25

10-10:35 PM

Out of Sumter county now starting tomorrow, Bosch corporation officials are expected to talk with hundreds of employees about definite layoff. 4-hundred workers were given the bad news yesterday. Many are now devastated. Bosch officials blame the lay-off on not being able to make high profits during an economic slump. Bosch plans to move the "brake manufacturing" section of the plant to Mexico.

WACH FOX NEWS AT 10

SLUG: PORTABLE SIGNS February 4 10

10-10:35 PM

Columbia City Council is considering a ban on mobile advertising signs. The city plans to take up the issue at next month's council meeting and that has some business owners angry. Lu Frierson says portable signs are cheaper than larger permanent signs and without them his business might not survive. I'm rather appalled at it. As a small business owner, we try to help our community and our portable signs are a major player as far as our advertising. They are vital to us. City planners say the signs are unsafe because they're often too close to the road and impair driver's vision. The city plans to make an exemption for signs aimed at pedestrians or announcing business grand openings.

WACH FOX NEWS AT 10

SLUG: NORTHWEST

February 4

10-10:35 PM

If you fly out of Columbia's Metro Airport you'll soon have more options. Northwest Airlines is adding a third daily non-stop flight between here and its hub in Detroit. That new flight will begin in April. Northwest has been serving Columbia since last October.

WACH FOX NEWS AT 10

SLUG: VISIT

February 6

10-10:35 PM

Blue Cross National unemployment figures are out for January tonight. And they're down. Last month the jobless rate dropped to just over five and half percent. 112-thousand new jobs were created. Mostly construction and service positions, here in the midlands. That drop means little to more than 15-hundred people receiving pink slips from Blue Cross-Blue Shield. The insurance giant is cutting positions statewide: 756 in Columbia, 700 in Florence, 92 in Camden, and 31 in Surfside. The layoff came after Blue Cross-Blue Shield lost government contracts to handle military insurance claims.