

**FIRST QUARTER ISSUES PROGRAMS LIST FOR
TROY UNIVERSITY PUBLIC RADIO
January 1 – March 31, 2024
Placed in the Public File April 8, 2024**

Section I. Issues.

The station has identified the following issues as significant issues facing our community this quarter:

- A. Societal Issues:** Alabama Legislative issues; Meals on Wheels in River Region; Eagle Conservation; Human Trafficking; Alabama’s Workforce Initiative; Troy University Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr.’s “On Leadership” podcast; “Short the Squirrel” Literacy podcast for children; Revamping Centreville’s community layout; Travel in Europe with Rick Steves; Gambling proposals in the Alabama Legislature; Music Educator’s “In Choir” podcast; Ballot Harvesting proposals in Alabama Legislature; Romance scams; Arbor Week and Capital City tree plantings; Invasive Cogongrass; In Vitro Fertilization (IVF); Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI); Cinderella as a story of women’s empowerment; Alabama’s Primary Election; Alabama Folk Arts radio show; School Choice legislation; Safe Haven Baby Boxes for infants; Vaping; Covid-19 documentation project in the Alabama Wiregrass; Corporations moving overseas; Artificial Intelligence scams; Tax tips for businesses; Alabama Works legislation; Tax tips for individuals.
- B. Historical Issues:** The Helen Keller Opera – “Touch;” Red Eagle – Creek Indian William Weatherford; Moonshiner Clyde May; Polio research and treatment of black patients at Tuskegee Institute and Hospital in the mid-20th century; The Clotilda, Civil War era slave ship; Family stories and genealogical research; Gee’s Bend Quilters.

Section II: Responsive Programs.

The station has presented programming dealing with each of the above-referenced issues. Programming on *In Focus*, with host-producer Carolyn Hutcheson, dealt with each issue in a 9 ½ -minute segment, at 12:40 p.m. Central time Tues., Wed. and Thurs. On Fri., *The Newswrap* was presented at 7:44 a.m., 12:35 p.m., and 4:44 p.m. with guest Todd Stacy, Host of Alabama Public Television’s *Capitol Journal*, to keep listeners updated on news from the Alabama Legislature in a 4 ½ -minute segment. *The Exchange* features, from time to time, segments about economic issues.

Special Note:

Troy Public Radio continued to make the *In Focus* program available by podcast. On occasional weekends, *In Focus Weekend* featured back-to-back episodes of the program Sat. at 3:40 p.m. and Sun. at 6:40 a.m.

A. Societal Issues

-Broadcast on January 5 & 12:

A discussion for The Newswrap with guest Todd Stacy, Host of Alabama Public Television's Capitol Journal, about issues that will be taken up by the Alabama Legislature during its upcoming session. Since there are many newly elected legislators, Stacy expects rapid attention will be given to proposed bills.

-Broadcast on January 9:

A discussion with guest Donna Marietta, CEO of Meals on Wheels, a United Way agency serving thousands of Seniors in Montgomery's River Region. The organization is meeting a variety of needs, from food to home repairs to knitted items to pet food, but relies heavily on volunteers to extend those services.

-Broadcast on January 10 & 17:

A two-part discussion for The Storyline on In Focus with guest Mike McTee, geoscientist from Missoula, Montana, about America's National Symbol – the Bald Eagle. Golden and Bald Eagles have made a comeback after DDT almost wiped them out in the 20th century, but a new threat has emerged – lead from lead bullets. Since eagles are scavengers, the lead can kill them. Various state conservation agencies are recommending that hunters use copper bullets for deer hunting, etc. McTee is the author of *Wilted Wings, A Hunter's Fight for Eagles*. Alabama is celebrating Eagle Awareness Weekends at Guntersville State Park.

-Broadcast on January 19:

A discussion for The Newswrap with guest Todd Stacy, Host of Alabama Public Television's Capitol Journal, about a proposed Human Trafficking bill in the next Legislative session.

-Broadcast on January 26:

A discussion for The Newswrap with guest Todd Stacy, Host of Alabama Public Television's Capitol Journal, about Alabama's new Alabama Works plan that was developed by Lt. Gov. Will Ainsworth to get more Alabamians back into the workforce. Only about half of the state's population is in the workforce.

-Broadcast on January 30:

A discussion with guest Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor of Troy University, about his podcast, "On Leadership." In today's world, leadership skills are paramount, and Dr. Hawkins recounted his own path to leadership.

-Broadcast on January 31:

A discussion with guests Monica Anderson Young and Dr. Dee Bennett of Troy University, originators of the innovative podcast, "Short the Squirrel," Alabama's Literacy Mascot. The squirrel's fourth birthday is soon, and a virtual birthday party is planned at shortthesquirrel.com.

-Broadcast on February 6:

A discussion with guest Gina Clifford, Executive Director of Design Alabama, about how the organization is helping the City of Centreville revamp its layout, with input from the community. Centreville lies at the center of Alabama, adjacent to the historic Cahaba River, which will be included in designs for the town's parks and access.

-Broadcast on February 7:

A discussion with guest Rick Steves, Host of "Travels with Rick Steves" on public radio and television, about travel tips to Europe. Rick Steves is appearing in Auburn to speak at an event sponsored by the Women's Philanthropy Board.

-Broadcast on February 9:

A discussion for The Newswrap with guest Todd Stacy, Host of Alabama Public Television's Capitol Journal, about gambling proposals in the Alabama Legislature.

-Broadcast on February 15:

A discussion with guest Dr. Diane Orlofsky, Professor Emerita of Music at Troy University, about her new podcast, "In Choir," which features young composers discussing their choral music journey.

-Broadcast on February 16:

A discussion for The Newswrap with guest Todd Stacy, Host of Alabama Public Television's Capitol Journal, about Ballot Harvesting proposals in the Alabama Legislature.

-Broadcast on February 20 :

A discussion on The Exchange with guest Amanda Senn, Director of the Alabama Securities Commission, about romance scams and the red flags to look for. Perpetrators invariably ask the person targeted for money.

-Broadcast on February 21:

A discussion during Arbor Week in Alabama with guest Brandon Brazil, a member of the Montgomery Tree Committee, about plans to distribute 1000 tree seedlings on Sat., Feb. 24, to citizens for planting. Before Montgomery had an Urban Forester, the city had no discernible urban plantings. Acres of concrete and asphalt provided no relief from sweltering heat in the warmer months, with no absorption of carbon dioxide.

-Broadcast on February 22:

A discussion with Alabama Forestry Commission guests Dana Stone, Director of the Forest Management Division, and Owen Andrews, Cogongrass Coordinator, about Cogongrass, an Invasive plant that is deadly to farmland, forests, and the Alabama landscape. Especially hard hit is southeast Alabama's Wiregrass, where the plant has taken widespread hold. The guests discussed the Cogongrass Mitigation program, with help available to landowners.

-Broadcast on February 23 & March 1:

A discussion for The Newswrap with guest Todd Stacy, Host of Alabama Public Television's Capitol Journal, about two issues on the agenda for the Alabama Legislature – IVF (In Vitro Fertilization) and DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion). Various proposals are under consideration.

-Broadcast on February 29:

In a nod to Women's History Month ahead in March, a discussion with guests Kate Seale Smith, Artistic Director, and Emily Flowers, Managing Director of the Alabama Dance Theatre, about the upcoming production of Cinderella, choreographed to illustrate the empowerment of women in this classic ballet and beloved fairytale.

-Broadcast on March 4

A discussion for In Focus with guest Todd Stacy, Host of Alabama Public Television's Capitol Journal, about tomorrow's Primary Election, with previews of the party candidates and their backgrounds.

-Broadcast on March 5:

A discussion with guests Annemarie Anderson, Director of the Alabama Center for Traditional Culture, and Stephani Priskos, Folklorist with the Center, about bringing traditional arts and culture to listeners of their new TPR radio program, "Arts Fell on Alabama."

-Broadcast on March 8:

A discussion for The Newswrap with Todd Stacy, Host of Alabama Public Television's Capitol Journal, about several Legislative developments, including School Choice legislation.

-Broadcast on March 12:

An on-location discussion at Fire Station #4 with guest Josh Bingham, Deputy Chief of the Prattville, AL, Fire Department, about the City of Prattville's participation in the Safe Haven Baby Box program. The \$20,000 steel box, built into the wall of the building, is for infants up to 45 days old, whose mothers cannot care for them. The Fire Dept. brings the baby to the hospital, where the infant is examined and turned over to DHR. Prattville is the second city in the state to participate in the nonprofit program.

-Broadcast on March 13:

A discussion with guest scientist Robin Geurs, Clinical Research Coordinator at UAB Hospital in Birmingham, about the long term and irreversible effects of Vaping on the human body. There are several government programs to help people of all ages quit the habit.

-Broadcast on March 14:

A discussion with guest Professor Martin Olliff, Director of the Wiregrass Archives at Troy University Dothan Campus, about Wiregrass documentation efforts of the Covid-19 pandemic since March of 2020.

-Broadcast on March 19:

A discussion with guest Bob Corley, singer-songwriter and photographer, about his song, "A Penny More," which he wrote about local jobs lost because of corporations moving their operations overseas. He adapted the recording as a video on YouTube, and it illustrates the devastating aftereffects on livelihoods and the economy.

-Broadcast on March 20:

A discussion with guest Monde Donaldson of the Better Business Bureau Serving Central and South Alabama, about the use of A.I., Artificial Intelligence, to clone voices, alter photos and video images, and write fake documents. The BBB is tracking A.I. money scams and alerting consumers with precautionary advice.

-Broadcast on March 21:

A discussion for The Exchange with guest CPA Lynne Bozeman, former Chair of the Alabama Society of Certified Public Accountants, with a tax season update for business owners and corporations.

-Broadcast on March 22:

A discussion for The Newswrap with Todd Stacy, Host of Alabama Public Television's Capitol Journal, about plans by Governor Ivey and the Alabama Legislature to consolidate some areas of state government to facilitate rapid workforce development.

-Broadcast on March 28:

A discussion for The Exchange with guest CPA Lynne Bozeman, former Chair of the Alabama Society of Certified Public Accountants, with a tax season update for individuals and couples.

A. Historical Issues

-Broadcast on January 18:

A discussion with guest Marianna Mott Newirth, Co-Librettist of the opera, "Touch," about the life of Alabama-born deaf and blind activist Helen Keller and her teacher and friend, Anne Sullivan. Opera Birmingham presents the world premiere this weekend to a sold-out audience.

-Broadcast on January 23:

A discussion with retired Covington County District Judge, guest Trippy McGuire, who teaches Fourth graders about Red Eagle, the Creek Indian who jumped from the bluffs of the Alabama River on his horse, Arrow, to escape the U.S. military in the era of Andrew Jackson.

-Broadcast on January 24 & 25:

A two-part discussion with guest L.C. May, family historian and grandson of one of Alabama's most famous moonshiners, Clyde May of Union Springs. L.C. May talked about his grandfather's recipe and how the State of Alabama adopted Conecuh Ridge Alabama Fine Whiskey as the Official State Spirit in 2004. In Part Two of his interview, L.C. May discussed moonshiners, bootleggers, and revenue agents in the mid-twentieth century.

-Broadcast on February 8 and March 7:

A two-part discussion for The Storyline book series and Black History Month with guest Dr. Edith Powell, Retired Professor of Immunology and Hematology at Tuskegee University, about the role of Tuskegee Institute and Hospital in researching the polio virus and treating black patients. The project was initiated with President F.D. Roosevelt's involvement. Dr. Powell's book is "A Black Oasis, Tuskegee Institute's Fight Against Infantile Paralysis, 1941 to 1975." In March, a monument was unveiled on the campus that memorialized the epic fight.

-Broadcast on February 28:

A discussion for Black History Month with guest Laura Hill, Communications Editor of the online Encyclopedia of Alabama, about the Clotilda, the last slave ship to bring west Africans to Mobile in the Civil War era, after slavery was declared illegal in the U.S.

-Broadcast on March 6:

A discussion with guest Lynn Schlick, President of the Alabama Genealogical Society, about tracing family stories through genealogical research. She shared one of her grandmother's original poems, written during the Great Depression when her husband couldn't find work to support his family.

-Broadcast on March 27:

A discussion with guest Kyle Gassiott, Director of Troy Public Radio, about his recent visit to Gee's Bend in Wilcox County and his interview with quilter Mary Ann Pettway. The Gee's Bend quilters continue the tradition of innovative geometric and symbolic designs dating back to the 1800s.