Quarterly Issues and Programming Report January 2016 thru March 2016

WCTX/MyTV9

WTNH Broadcasting, LLC New Haven, CT

- 1. Community Issues
- 2. Health
- 3. Education
- 4. Crime
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Community Issues:

January:

1/09/16: News 8 at 10pm - :20

"New Haven Parking Ban Lights"

If you live in a city... trying to figure out where you're allowed to park during snow storms isn't always easy. The City of New Haven is trying to change that. The city is installing more than 20 of these blue signs and lights around major intersections downtown. There's already one up at the intersection of Church and Crown Streets. When the blue light is flashing there's a parking ban in place and you can call the number listed on the sign for more information. Those calls go to the city's Traffic Operations Center. This is the first system like this in Connecticut. The hope is it'll help people avoid confusion...and getting towed. Crews will be installing the rest of the lights and signs this week. The city is hoping to put more up each year.

1/17/16: News 8 at 10pm - :20

"St Pat's Fundraiser"

Saint Patrick's Day is exactly two months away and some people in the New Haven area are already planning for it. Runners braved this morning's cold weather and warmed up in the "Save the Parade 5-K." The race was held in Hamden. It raises money to support the Greater New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade. Organizers were hoping that 60 runners would show up...and more than 200 ran in the race. Volunteers say the 5-K and the parade are great ways to bring the community together. The Greater New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on Sunday, March 13.

1/20/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Hydrant Clearing"

With snow on the way, fire crews are reminding people to dig a 2 to 3 foot radius around hydrants in their neighborhood. The problem is-those plow trucks can drive into those hydrants-when they're covered by snow. If you can't physically clear the area around a hydrant-call your city or town-and they'll send someone out to do it.

February:

2/07/16: News 8 at 10pm _:15

"Cheshire Pool Reopens"

The Cheshire community pool reopened today. Three years ago the bubble cover collapsed under heavy snow. The new pool structure is a permanent roof with a steel frame. A representative from the pool says the new roof should be able to handle 50 inches of snow and 130 mile an hour winds.

2/11/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Free Tax Services in Hamden"

Quinnipiac University accounting students will be offering free tax preparation services this year. You can get help- if you make less than 54 thousand dollars a year- through 'volunteer income tax assistance' sessions. The tax services will be held at the Keefe Community Center in Hamden They will be held every Thursday until April 14th. No appointments are needed but you do need to bring identification and have all tax and health insurance documents with you. Log onto our website, WTNH dot com, for more information about what you need to bring.

2/23/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Heroin Forum in Guilford"

A community forum will take place this evening at the Guilford Community Center on the growing opioid and heroin crisis in the state. The forum will be hosted by State Representative Sean Scanlon. He will be joined by the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Commissioner along with first responders in the area. There will be a panel discussion and time for a question and answer session. It starts at 7 o'clock tonight and runs to about 8-30.

March:

3/02/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"CT Arts Day"

Artists, innovators, and state lawmakers are expected in the state capitol today to celebrate Connecticut Arts Day. The event is set out to recognize the diversity in Connecticut's cultural community. One New Haven artist - recognized for works related to the Ferguson protests - will be featured. The event runs from 9 o'clock this morning to 3:30 in the afternoon.

3/03/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Gun Law Hearing"

a public hearing later today on a proposal to change A law here in Connecticut. Lawmakers are considering a bill- that would make it easier for police to ask to see a permit from *anyone* who's carrying a gun in public. Right now-police need 'reasonable suspicion' that the person committed a crime. Gun rights activists argue-that a change would infringe on second amendment rights,

3/04/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Planetarium Show/Telescope Viewing"

If you'd like to reach for the stars this weekend...head to Danbury. Western Connecticut State University is hosting a planetarium show and telescope viewing Saturday at 6pm. Take a journey through space without leaving Connecticut. It's free...and if you're lucky you may see Jupiter.

3/14/16: News 8 at 10pm - :20

"Diaper Banks"

Anyone with a baby knows how expensive diapers are and now some research done here in Connecticut is giving some federal help to families who can't afford diapers. Doctor Megan Smith

with the New Moms partnership says she has spent years researching low income families in New Haven and the pressure the cost of diapers can put on a family. She says families here spend nearly a thousand dollars a year on diapers. And the cost isn't just in money. The White House took notice of her study and now the Obama administration announced the community diaper program...it allows non-profits to purchase diapers in bulk and at discounted prices

Health:

January:

1/06/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Obesity & Losing Weight"

It seems dropping a few pounds is not a cure all when it come to your long term health. A new study finds people who were once obese but lost the weight are still at a higher risk for an early death. The more obese the person was, the higher the risk. Despite all that, doctors still say you should try to drop those unwanted pounds.

1/07/16: News 8 at 10pm - :20

"Sodium Study"

For years doctors have been telling us to eat less salt but tonight it looks like most of us aren't listening. According to the CDC most American s are still eating too much salt. Where are we getting all this sodium? Mostly in bread, deli meats, pizza, poultry, soup and salty snacks. So what can you do? Try cutting out canned and frozen foods and opt for fresh when you can and be sure to read labels to know how much salt you're getting.

1/12/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Weight Loss Surgery and Depression"

If you have more than a few pounds to lose, weight loss surgery might be the answer...And it turns out the procedure can be more beneficial than you realize. New research shows the surgery could change a patient's whole outlook on life! A study found that patients tended to be less depressed after the surgery. The study didn't conclude whether the surgery itself cheered the patients up, or if it was the positive changes they saw in their bodies that made the difference.

1/18/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Zika Virus Reports"

State health officials want to know about any local reports of a mosquito-borne viral infection called Zika. At this point-there are no reported cases-here in Connecticut but officials say a baby born in Hawaii tested positive for the virus on Saturday. Puerto Rico confirmed its first case in December. The illness is typically mild but tests are being done to see if there's a possible link between the viral infection in pregnant women and birth defects. Health officials say pregnant women should avoid traveling to Latin American and Caribbean countries that have outbreaks.

February:

2/03/16: News 8 at 10pm - :20

"Diabetes Risk"

New research shows being sedentary may lead to diabetes. Researchers in the Netherlands tracked the activity levels of about 25 hundred people. At the same time they tested those people for diabetes. They found people who spent an extra hour per day being sedentary were 22-percent more likely to already be diabetic. Researchers say it's a reminder to stand up for your health.

2/16/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Fish and Pregnancy"

A new study suggests eating fish more than three times a week during pregnancy can lead to an increased risk of childhood obesity. The effect was more pronounced in girls than boys. Current recommendations say pregnant women should eat fish, but no more than two to three servings per week.

2/25/16: News 8 at 10pm - :25

"Heroin Addict Help"

News 8 has talked to several families dealing with heroin addiction. Many say finding treatment programs can be difficult. We wanted to find out for ourselves, we called around to see which short term detox programs accept state insurance and who have available beds. We found beds available in Hartford, Bridgeport, New Haven and New London. Facilities in North Stonington, Danbury and Middletown were full. Emergency room doctors at Yale say overdoses are on the rise and that the key to successful recovery is getting proper treatment. At Yale New Haven Hospital there is a specially trained staff 24-7 to help find beds. Doctors say patients who don't get the right help return again and again. Most of the detox programs operate on first come first serve basis.

March:

3/02/16: News 8 at10pm - :25

"Medical Marijuana and Minors"

Should Medical Marijuana be available to children in Connecticut who suffer from serious illnesses? Today distraught parents pleaded with state lawmakers to make it legal for their kids' health. Pediatricians are now endorsing the idea of non-smokable marijuana being used to treat certain conditions in children, like epilepsy. The active ingredient in marijuana has shown positive results for kids that suffer from epileptic seizures -- in states where medical marijuana is legal but Connecticut is the only state where medical marijuana is legal... that prohibits kids from using medical marijuana. For those who can't pick up and go to a state that allows the treatment -- the road is very rough. Some lawmakers say they want to see more research on the side effects on children before giving the okay.

3/14/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Lazy Weekends Are Bad For You"

A new study has found that being lazy on the weekends is worse for your weight than sitting at a desk all week. Being a couch potato on Saturday and Sunday can affect body fat more than being a desk jockey Monday through Friday. "We know that, on average, people consume less or eat healthier diets on weekdays," said study author Clemens Drenowatz of the University of South Carolina. "So, they may be able to get by with less activity on weekdays because their diet makes up for it. On weekends, they're eating more, which requires more activity or less sedentary behavior to offset."

3/17/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Exercise and Brain Health"

A new study finds - quitting smoking, losing weight and staying active may benefit your brain. Researchers discovered - people who meet more of the American Heart Association's "life's simple seven" tend to have better overall brain function. That's true especially when it comes to processing things quickly. The "simple seven" includes things like avoiding tobacco... Keeping your weight and diet in check... And keeping blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar levels in line.

Education:

January:

1/08/16: Good Morning CT - :20

"CT Standardized Tests"

The debate over standardized tests here in Connecticut continues. The state's largest teacher's union is calling for lawmakers to get rid of the test. The SBAC test gauges achievement levels for third through eighth-graders. The Connecticut education association wants lawmakers and the governor to come up with a new standardized test that is more in-line with everyday curriculum. They say, that way, educators won't have to spend time teaching just for the test taking away time from teaching other topics and subjects. Officials hope to have lawmakers authorize a new test by next school year.

1/19/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Blumenthal College Affordability"

Tackling the rising cost of a college education is bringing Senator Richard Blumenthal to Middletown High School today. He's on the campus-meeting with students, parents and administrators-about the challenge of paying for a higher education. The website-edvisors.com says-the average student debt for the class of 2015-was a little more than 35-thousand dollars. Blumenthal says he's working on measures in the senate to help curb the cost of a secondary education.

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<u>1/25/16: News 8 at 10pm - :20</u> "Too Much Testing"

Too much testing and not enough learning....that's the conclusion of the state's largest teachers union and school administrators. Three years after a new system of evaluating teacher performance with the goal of more learning for kids. The plan is getting a failing grade from teachers and principals. The union says surveys of teachers and principals across the state indicates that teachers are spending weeks and weeks preparing kids to take the tests instead of real classroom learning time because teachers know that their jobs could be on the line. The committee that decides on the next moves on this system will be meeting in Hartford next week. 06F0073003E003C006D006F007300490044003E00570054004E0048004200430041004D0049 004F003C002F006D006F007300490044003E003C006E0063007300490044003E00570054004 E0048003C002F006E0063007300490044003E003C006D006F0073004F0062006A003E003C00 6F0062006A00490044003E00570054004E0048002D004E004500570053005C0030003300 310038003800370034003F00760065007200730069006F006E003D0031003C002F006F006200 6A00490044003E003C006F0062006A0053006C00750067003E0020002D0020003000330 03100380038003700340028004C0033002D0046006100630074006F006900640029002000230 02000200023002000230054006500610063006800650072007300200061006E00640020007000 720069006E0063006900700061006C007300200075006E006800610070007000790020007700 690074006800200070006500720066006F0072006D0061006E006300650020006500760061006 C0075006100740069006F006E002000730079007300740065006D00200023003C002F006 F0062006A0053006C00750067003E003C006D006F0073004900740065006D00450064006900 74006F007200500072006F006700490044003E004300680079006D006F0078002E0041007300 730065007400420072006F0077007300650072002E0031003C002F006D006F00730049007400 65006D0045006400690074006F007200500072006F006700490044003E003C006D006F007300 410062007300740072006100630074003E0020002D0020005B004C0033002D00460061006300 74006F00690064005D0020002D0020007C00200020007C00200020007C00200054006500 610063006800650072007300200061006E00640020007000720069006E0063006900700061006 C007300200075006E006800610070007000790020007700690074006800200070006500720066

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February:

2/03/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15 "East Haven School Closing" D.C. Moore School in East Haven is closing its doors forever. The East Haven school district is running nine schools with 3-thousand students enrolled. Recently the school board made the decision to close one of its schools. It came down to cost and enrollment. Dr. Bonner says a study was done to determine which school should close in terms of the age and condition of the building.

2/16/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Armed Security at Community Colleges"

We may see armed security at all 12 state community college campuses. Lawmakers are looking at a proposal where special police forces will be created at each school. Officials say each school would decide whether or not to arm police on campus. The bill is up for a hearing Thursday before the general assembly's higher education and employment advancement committee.

2/25/16: News 8 at 10pm - :25

"SBAC Test Changes"

Governor Malloy announced today that students across Connecticut will spend less time taking tests soon. One of the SBAC exams will be cancelled starting next month because educators feel it's just not needed and the time can be better spent learning. It affects over a quarter of million Connecticut kids in grades 3 through 8. The head of the State's largest teacher's union is calling this a very small step toward reducing excessive testing saying the SBAC tests are ineffective and discriminatory.

March:

3/04/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"New Grading System"

Schools across the state are getting their own grades tonight. The State Department of Education graded every school in the state. They've been releasing this accountability report for several years... but this year they looked at more than just test scores. The ratings include other factors like.... academic performance, access to art classes, participation in fitness and health and wellness programs. The state department of education puts schools in 3 categories -- distinction - focus -- and turnaround. To see how well you child's school stacked up log on to our website at WTNH.com.

3/07/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"School Abuse Teachers"

Connecticut is considering legislation that would keep teachers suspected of misconduct - from being allowed to transfer to other schools. It's called "passing the trash" and advocates say it's important to keep abusers from moving from school to school. Right now only Pennsylvania, Missouri and Oregon ban the practice.

3/14/16: News 8 at 10pm - :25

"Reputable Online Degrees"

We all know life can be busy - which is why so many students are turning to the internet to get their degrees online. But it's only convenient if the degree you get in the end is worth something. According to the Better Business Bureau some alleged "diploma mills" have cost students hundreds of dollars and in the end - they get a fake diploma! Here are a few red flags to look out for - consider it suspicious when you're paying per degree rather than credit hours, if they're offering package deals to students looking to earn two degrees at once and if they guarantee a degree within a few days, weeks or months. Another red flag is a diploma awarded on life experience and require little to no work. Students say it's easy to fall into a trap when life is busy and you're trying to get ahead. Students have discovered the hard way that the fast track doesn't

always pay - they try to get a job, into higher education or the military only to discover their degrees are worthless.

Crime:

January:

1/04/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Mosque Shooting Update"

A Meriden man accused of shooting a mosque will be staying with his mother while he waits for his trial. Ted Hakey Jr. appeared in court today. He's charged with a hate crime in connection with a shooting at Baitul Aman Mosque in Meriden. The shooting happened just days after the deadly Paris terror attacks in November. No one was hurt.

1/13/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Bella Vista Police Substation"

People living in New Haven's east side have been so concerned about a rise in crime they were promised a new substation. That was months ago and that new substation is still sitting empty. There are signs at the Bella Vista housing complex but inside two empty desks. The News 8 investigators went digging for answers talking to residents and city leaders. We're told this all apparently has to go through an approval process with the city. A spokesperson for New Haven says they're making good progress on opening the substation. We'll keep you posted.

<u>1/14/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15</u> "Water Company Scam"

We've got your back tonight with a warning about a water company scam in Manchester. c006d006f0073003e003c006d006f007300490044003e00570054004e0048004200430041004d0 049004f003c002f006d006f007300490044003e003c006e0063007300490044003e00570054004 e0048003c002f006e0063007300490044003e003c006d006f0073004f0062006a003e003c006f00 62006a00490044003e00570054004e0048002d004e004500570053005c0030003000330031003 3003700310035003f00760065007200730069006f006e003d0031003c002f006f0062006a004900 44003e003c006f0062006a0053006c00750067003e0020002d002000300030003300310033003 700310035002800460053002d00420075006c006c0065007400730050006f0069006e00740073 00290020002300200057004100540045005200200043004f004d00500041004e0059002000530 0430041004d00200023004d0041004e004300480045005300540045005200200023004b004e00 4f0043004b0020004f004e00200044004f004f00520020002300220043004800450043004b00200 05700410054004500520020005000520045005300530055005200450022002000230053004500 43004f004e004400200050004500520053004f004e00200047004f0045005300200049004e0053 00490044004500200023004d004f004e00450059002000460052004f004d002000500055005200 530045002000230045004d0050004c004f0059004500450053002000480041005600450020004 90044002000230020002300200023003c002f006f0062006a0053006c00750067003e003c006d0 06f0073004900740065006d0045006400690074006f007200500072006f006700490044003e004 300680079006d006f0078002e0041007300730065007400420072006f0077007300650072002e0 031003c002f006d006f0073004900740065006d0045006400690074006f007200500072006f0067 00490044003e003c006d006f007300410062007300740072006100630074003e0020002d00200 05b00460053002d00420075006c006c0065007400730050006f0069006e00740073005d002000 2d00200020007c00200057004100540045005200200043004f004d00500041004e00590020005 300430041004d0020007c0020004d0041004e00430048004500530054004500520020007c0020 004b004e004f0043004b0020004f004e00200044004f004f00520020007c0020002200430048004 50043004b00200057004100540045005200200050005200450053005300550052004500220020 007c0020005300450043004f004e004400200050004500520053004f004e00200047004f004500 5300200049004e00530049004400450020007c0020004d004f004e00450059002000460052004f 004d0020005000550052005300450020007c00200045004d0050004c004f00590045004500530

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<u>1/22/16: Good Morning CT - :15</u> "Dating Meet-up Abduction Attempt" The Hartford police department is working to gather physical and video evidence in an attempted abduction. The department tells News 8 a woman met up with a man who she connected with on a dating website. When she got in the car a man who was in the backseat tried to put a plastic bag over her head. The victim claims both men in the car physically assaulted her. She fought back and was able to get away. This all happened near Keeney Park around two pm on Thursday.

February:

2/06/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Stratford School Threat"

Police will be making extra patrols at three Stratford schools on Monday after an alleged threat. Some students were in a group chat when one re-posted another threat made on Instagram. Police say the threat is unsubstantiated and is going around on social media sites. They say no direct threats were made but they're taking precautions at Stratford High, Wooster Middle and Fairchild Wheeler magnet school just to be safe.

2/19/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Distraction Burglaries"

An elderly couple in West Haven was terrorized by men posing as utility sub-contractors...they gained entry and ransacked their home. This happened last evening. The wife who did not want to be identified by name was told by the pair that she was in danger of her power going out. The couple let them in, and while they were distracted-- a third crook burglarized the house. The victim says she wanted to share her story so it doesn't happen to anyone else.

2/29/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Avon Sex Offender Arrest"

Avon police have just released the mug shot of a man accused of a pretty gross crime. Police say the man exposed and touched himself, in front of a group of girl scouts, who were selling cookies! 23-year-old Alexander Gailunas was arrested yesterday morning, outside the Walmart on West Main Street in Avon. He's facing a list of charges tonight.

March:

3/03/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Dispatcher Child Enticement"

A state police dispatcher has been arrested on charges of enticing a minor into sexual activity. 48 year old Jeffrey Norton of Waterbury turned himself in on risk of injury to a minor charges. We don't have details but Norton has been a dispatcher since 2004. He's on administrative leave from his job at the barracks in Bethany. He's due in court later this month.

3/11/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Bristol IRS Scam"

Bristol police say phone calls are going around from a person claiming to be with the IRS, threatening people with arrest if they don't pay their late taxes. We've got your back with ways to protect yourself from this scam. The IRS will not demand money over the phone. The agency will mail you a bill *first* before any calls are made. You can also appeal the amount you may owe. The IRS will not ask you for a credit card number nor will the agency threaten arrest.

3/14/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"New Haven Intern in Court"

A former New Haven city intern accused of stealing thousands of dollars is expected to head back to court today. The court is waiting for Alton Ferguson to enter a plea on a larceny charge.

Ferguson worked in a city office for about five years. Police say- he stole more than seven thousand dollars from the office where parking fines are processed. He was fired when the department learned of the alleged theft.

Consumer Issues:

January:

1/05/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Ford New Access"

Ford announced at the consumer electronics show in Las Vegas that it is working with Amazon and Wink Smarthome platform towards giving ford owners unprecedented access to their connected home devices from their cars. Ford owners may soon be able to use the vehicle's sync connect system to use touch or voice commands to open a garage door, check thermostat settings or turn on the lights at home.

1/09/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Cough Syrup Recall"

We've got your back tonight with a recall of some medicine you may be giving your kids. Check your cabinets. Some bottles of care one children's mucus relief cough medicine are being recalled. They have incorrect dosage markings that could cause an overdose. Some 4 ounce bottles of the cherry flavored syrup are affected. Tto determine if your cough medicine is being recalled log on to www.wtnh.com

1/21/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Britax Stroller Recall"

Parents we've got a stroller and car seat recall to tell you about tonight. Britax is recalling more than 71 thousand car seats because the carrying handles can break. The recall covers the b-safe 35, b-safe 35 elite and b-safe 35 travel system. The seats were made between October 2014 and July 2015. Britax will send owners a free repair kit. Britax is also recalling about 60-thousand strollers and replacement seats because the foam padding on the arm bar can come off... posing a choking hazard.

February:

2/01/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Abusive Debt Collectors Report"

State lawmakers and consumer advocates are calling for new rules to reign in abusive debt collection practices. The 'Alliance for a Just Society' will release a report today about the types of complaints from consumers in Connecticut and the top 5 companies with the most complaints. The 'Consumer Financial Protection Bureau' will consider new rules to protect consumers more and strengthen enforcement.

2/09/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Ikea Lamp Recall"

Ikea is recalling almost one million ceiling lamps. The Hyby and Lock lamps are being pulled from store shelves because the clips that hold the glass shade to the lamp can break, causing the glass shade to fall. There have been 11 reports of injuries so far. If you've got one of those lamps bring it back to Ikea for a refund.

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2/19/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Hoverboard Recall"

We've been showing you all the trouble with Hoverboards - the two wheeled toys that keep bursting into flames. Tonight the government is warning the companies that make them that they could be forced to recall them. The consumer product safety commission issuing that warning to manufacturers -- importers -- and retailers. Some Hoverboard models are prone to catching fire. Several airlines and colleges have banned Hoverboards -- including UCONN and Quinnipiac. 6D006F0073003E003C006D006F007300490044003E00570054004E0048004200430041004D0 049004F003C002F006D006F007300490044003E003C006E0063007300490044003E00570054 004E0048003C002F006E0063007300490044003E003C006D006F0073004F0062006A003E003 C006F0062006A00490044003E00570054004E0048002D004E004500570053005C0030003000 3300330031003200310032003F00760065007200730069006F006E003D0031003C002F006F00 62006A00490044003E003C006F0062006A0053006C00750067003E0020002D0020003000300 033003300310032003100320028004C0033002D0031002D004C0069006E00650029002000230 02000200023002000230048004F0056004500520042004F004100520044002000520045004300 41004C004C005300200050004F0053005300490042004C004500200023003C002F006F006200 6A0053006C00750067003E003C006D006F0073004900740065006D0045006400690074006F0 07200500072006F006700490044003E004300680079006D006F0078002E00410073007300650 07400420072006F0077007300650072002E0031003C002F006D006F0073004900740065006D0 045006400690074006F007200500072006F006700490044003E003C006D006F0073004100620 07300740072006100630074003E0020002D0020005B004C0033002D0031002D004C0069006E 0065005D0020002D0020007C0020007C0020007C0020007C00200048004F005600450052 0042004F00410052004400200052004500430041004C004C005300200050004F005300530049 0042004C00450020007C00200020003D002600670074003B0020005B00300030003300330031 00320031003200200028004C0033002D0031002D004C0069006E00650029005D003C002F006 D006F007300410062007300740072006100630074003E003C006900740065006D00430068006 1006E006E0065006C003E004300480031003C002F006900740065006D004300680061006E00 6E0065006C003E003C006F0062006A00500061007400680073003E003C006F0062006A00500 072006F0078007900500061007400680020007400650063006800440065007300630072006900 7000740069006F006E003D00220050004E0047002000500072006F007800790022003E006800 7400740070003A002F002F00310030002E0037002E00330032002E00310032002F0074006800 75006D00620073002F00570054004E0048002D004E004500570053002F003300330031003000 300030002F004F0062006A0065006300740073005F00570054004E0048002D004E0045005700 53005F00300030003300330031003200310032005F00760031005F00700072006F00780079002 E0070006E0067003C002F006F0062006A00500072006F007800790050006100740068003E003 C006F0062006A00500072006F007800790050006100740068002000740065006300680044006 50073006300720069007000740069006F006E003D0022004A005000450047002000540068007 5006D0062006E00610069006C0022003E0068007400740070003A002F002F00310030002E00 37002E00330032002E00310032002F007400680075006D00620073002F00570054004E004800 2D004E004500570053002F003300330031003000300030002F004F0062006A00650063007400 73005F00570054004E0048002D004E004500570053005F003000300033003300310032003100 32005F00760031005F006200690067002E006A00700067003C002F006F0062006A0050007200 6F007800790050006100740068003E003C002F006F0062006A00500061007400680073003E00 3C006D006F007300450078007400650072006E0061006C004D00650074006100640061007400 61003E003C006D006F007300530063006F00700065003E0050004C00410059004C004900530 054003C002F006D006F007300530063006F00700065003E003C006D006F0073005300630068

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2/29/16: News 8 at 10pm - :20

"Gym Closing"

We've got your back tonight after two shoreline gyms closed without notice. Some Shoreline Fitness members who paid for their memberships in full are now worried their money is lost. We looked into this and found out that through the Health Club Guaranty Fund set up through the state Department of Consumer Protection they may get a refund of their money and then the state will go after the gym owner for reimbursement. The Better Business Bureau also says you can protect your money by paying monthly with a credit card rather than with a bank account. News8 caught up with the owner of Funktion Fitness at the Old Saybrook location. He says he bought the assets of Shoreline Fitness not the business itself but he will honor the memberships at that location and at the one in Clinton.

March:

<u>3/07/16: Good Morning CT - :30</u> "Preventing ID Theft"

Connecticut is now second in the nation in identity theft. That's a big jump. We were 14th just a year ago. And this time of year, a lot of the identity theft reported comes from fraudulent tax returns. Connecticut saw around three thousand complaints of identity theft in 2014. That jumped to more than eight thousand in 2015. That's why we're now number two. Connecticut is the wealthiest state per capita, and has an aging population that might be less in tune with new technology. That makes an attractive target for identity thieves. Of course stealing your information is one thing, then they have to find a way to make money pretending to be you. This time of year, a big way is to file a tax return in your name and collect your refund. There are things you can do, however. Never give out personal information over the phone. Use different passwords for all your on-line accounts. Click on those updates on your computer whenever they pop up, and review your credit report regularly. When it comes to your taxes, early is better. The bad guys pretending to be you can't file a tax return if you've already filed yours. There is also a

way to get a personal identification number from the IRS that only you have and nobody else can file taxes as you without it.

3/11/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Fantasy Sports"

State lawmakers are also looking to regulate the fantasy sports industry and sites like Draft Kings and Fan Duel. A bill would require the Department of Consumer Protection commissioner to regulate those sites and protect the players. Lawmakers agreed that the players should be at least 18-years-old. This follows a similar bill in Virginia just signed into law to regulate the websites.

3/17/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Tuna Recall"

There is a canned tuna fish recall you need to know about. In question is Bumble Bee chunk light tuna. There may be dangerous bacteria in the tuna because of a problem in the sterilization process. Eating tuna with that bacteria can make you really sick, even be life-threatening. Bumble bee says no one has become sick so far. For more details go to www.wtnh.com.

Government, Economy, & Law

January:

1/04/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Volkswagen Lawsuit"

The federal government is suing Volkswagen over the emissions cheating scandal. The Environmental protection agency and the justice department say the automaker violated U-S environmental rules. They're asking for up to 18 billion dollars in penalties. Volkswagen has admitted its diesel cars had illegal software installed to cheat emissions tests. About 500-thousand Volkswagen and Audi vehicles in the U.S. are affected by the scandal.

1/14/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Stock Market"

Nervous investors will be watching the markets for any signs of rebound after another deep dive. The Dow Jones industrial average opened down 365 points. The S&P five hundred lost 48 points yesterday. It's the worst start of the year – ever. Worries about china's economy and falling oil prices are driving the decline.

1/28/16: Good Morning CT - :15

"Smoking in Cars with Kids"

A task force is now recommending that state lawmakers ban smoking in a car if a child is inside. A task force has been studying the issue over the past year and looked at the effects of second hand smoke on children in cars. They are recommending a \$100 fine for anyone smoking in a car with a child under the age of 18. The fine would be for all tobacco products including e-cigarettes. The recommendation may be used in a bill that still has to get through the legislature and to the governor's desk before becoming law.

February:

<u>2/11/16: Good Morning CT – "15</u> "**UCONN Cuts**" A warning this morning from UConn's president -- academic programs could be cut and regional campuses closed if the university is hit with major cuts in the state budget. Susan Herbst says plans to cut more than 31 million dollars would wipe out the revenue generated by recent tuition hikes. She's asking lawmakers to spare the school -- arguing that UConn is one the most important tools the state has to help build the economy.

2/10/16: News 8 at 10pm - :25

"School Threats"

At least four schools in Connecticut received threats of violence yesterday. Now, one state senator wants to pass a law to get tougher on those types of crimes. Schools in West Haven, Stamford, Bristol and Hartford all received similar phone calls on Tuesday threatening violence against people on campus. Back in October, every school in the city of Fairfield was let out early as a result of threatening calls. Now, Senator Tony Hwang who represents Fairfield, wants to create a special statute-that would make threats against schools an automatic felony separate from other verbal threat crimes. The senator sponsored the same bill last session, it made it through the senate-but it was never brought up for a vote in the house.

2/23/16: Good Morning CT - :20

"Sex Offender Housing Aid"

The Connecticut Supreme Court will decide whether the state can apply a 2013 law retroactively to terminate housing aid to sex offenders convicted before the law took effect. The court will hear arguments today in the appeal of Francis Shannon. Shannon has a 1997 New Jersey conviction for endangering the welfare of children and a 2000 Connecticut conviction for public indecency. Shannon is challenging a 2013 decision by the state department of housing to terminate the state rental assistance he had been receiving since 2009. He argues the agency improperly applied the law retroactively.

2/23/16: News 8 at 10pm - :15

"Governor Town Hall Today"

Also happening this evening, Governor Malloy and Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman will hold a town hall forum at Wilbur Cross High School in New Haven. On tap for discussion are budget principles and adapting the state government to a changing economy. The forum starts at 7 o'clock and will last about an hour. If you want to ask the governor a guestion, make sure to get there a half hour ahead of time to submit your name.

March:

<u>3/01/16: Good Morning CT - :15</u> "No Money Fish Monitoring"

Some New England fishermen say they may go out of business as federal money for at-sea monitors runs out today. The monitors collect data about fishing quotas and cost more than 700 dollars per day. The government is shifting the cost of the monitors onto the fishermen who say they're already struggling with tight quotas. It could even make popular fish - like cod and haddock - harder to get.

<u>3/15/16: Good Morning CT - :15</u> "Malloy Highway Project"

Governor Dannel Malloy will be in Waterbury to give an update on the I84 construction progress. The governor will be joined by Connecticut Department of Transportation commissioner James Redeker. After that, Malloy will hold a radio town hall forum to discuss his budget principals and how he thinks the state government can adapt to a changing economy. For the latest out of today's events - be sure to stay tuned to News 8.

3/23/16: Good Morning CT - :15 "Sex Offender Bill"

The Judiciary Committee will hear two bills concerning sex offender registration in the state. One bill would let a sex offender apply to end their "lifetime" sex offender status. That's only if all registration requirements have been complied with for ten or more years. A second bill would reformulate residency restrictions. That bill would require sex offenders to live at least 1 thousand feet away from a school or child care center.