

WRBL

**Columbus, Georgia
Media General Communications holdings, LLC**

Fourth Quarter 2016 (October 1 – December 31)

WRBL (TV) has ascertained the following issues are of the interest to the Columbus, Georgia community:

- **Government**
- **Economy**
- **Environment/Land Use/Sprawl**
- **Education**
- **Family**
- **Values**

WRBL (TV) addressed these issues by providing significant treatment in the following local programs:

- **News 3 This Morning (Monday through Friday, 5:00a.m. – 7:00 a.m.)**
- **News 3 Midday (Monday through Friday, 12:00p.m. - 12:30 p.m.)**
- **News 3 Evening Edition (Monday through Friday, 6:00p.m. – 6:30 p.m.)**
- **News 3NightWatch at (Monday through Sunday, 11:00p.m. – 11:35 p.m.)**

As a CBS network affiliate, WRBL (TV) also aired a variety of CBS programming responsive to the interests and needs of the Columbus, Georgia community.

While this list describes much of WRBL (TV)'s most significant issue-responsive programming, it is not exhaustive. Programming described in this Quarterly List of Issue – Responsive Programming may relate simultaneously to more than one issue. Each segment aired for a duration of between 30 seconds and two minutes, unless otherwise noted.

Filed by: _____

Signed

Date Placed in Public Inspection

GOVERNMENT: LOCAL/REGIONAL :OCTOBER 1ST - DECEMBER 31ST

10-4 Early Voting In Muscogee -

IF MUSCOGEE COUNTY ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NANCY BOREN AND HER STAFF CAN HELP IT, THERE WON'T BE LONG LINES COME NOVEMBER 8.

"That is what we hope to alleviate is that horrible rush where people have to stand in line to wait to vote. We don't want that to happen."

ONE THING THEY'RE DOING ABOUT IT, EARLY VOTING.

FOR THE LAST TWO WEEKENDS IN OCTOBER, VOTERS CAN CAST BALLOTS ON SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS.

AND STARTING OCTOBER 17TH THE CITY SERVICES CENTER WILL OPEN THROUGH NOVEMBER FOURTH FOR EARLY VOTING.

"We just started the 7 am - 7 pm, as well as the Sunday voting, in General Primary in May. This will be our second time to have Sunday voting and the 7 am - 7 pm Monday through Friday. It's really convenient,"

ABSENTEE BALLOTS STARTED GOING OUT SEPTEMBER 20.

SO FAR, 2500 HAVE BEEN MAILED.

"We need a written request, and we will mail you your ballot. And then you can vote your ballot in the convenience of your home. And you return it back here, as long as it's back here by 7pm on Election Day."

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DEADLINES IS FOR THOSE NOT YET REGISTERED TO VOTE.

"You can just Google "OLVR Georgia," you can go to "my voter page Georgia," and you can register vote, change your address, change your name, and you can do that by October 11."

OR YOU CAN MAIL A PRINTED REGISTRATION FORM TO THE ELECTIONS OFFICE THAT'S POSTMARKED BY OCTOBER 11.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, GREG LOYD, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm Pkg 1:30,11pm

Vo/Sot:45

10/4 Weight Of VPS On Elections -

AS VIRGINIA SENATOR TIM KAIN AND INDIANA GOVERNOR MIKE PENCE TAKE CENTER STAGE IN TUESDAY NIGHT'S DEBATE, TROUP COUNTY SHERIFF JAMES WOODRUFF REMAINS UNSWAYED BY WHAT COULD FOLLOW.

"I have always ran as a Republican. I've always voted as a Republican. I just believe in those values. And so for that reason, I am strongly behind Mr. Trump."

WOODRUFF BELIEVES PENCE COMPLIMENTS TRUMP WELL.

"Once we see our Vice Presidential debate, we'll be able to see what a strong person Mr. Pence is and how together, they will make a good partnership and represent our country."

HOWEVER, DEMOCRAT JAMES WASHINGTON SAYS PENCE FIGHTS AN UPHILL BATTLE TUESDAY.

"He has to fend off some of that stuff and defend Presidential candidate Donald Trump to the American people for some of the things he's said."

AS FOR WASHINGTON'S TAKE ON SENATOR KAIN...

His record speaks for itself. I think he's done a lot of things in Virginia unlike his opponent, who has issues in his own home state."

WHATEVER YOUR POLITICAL PREFERENCE,
COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR DOCTOR FRED GORDON
URGES EVERYONE TO WATCH THE DEBATE
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PARTY PLATFORM,

AS WELL AS THE PEOPLE WHO COULD FIND THEMSELVES
ONE HEARTBEAT AWAY FROM THE PRESIDENCY.

"To go back and to get dragged into the name assessment, the name calling, I think that'd be a mistake. I think this is an opportunity for them to connect to people on the fence, undecided, unsure." **6pm Pkg 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/5 VETS Helping Homeless Vets -

IT'S RIGHT IN YOUR FACE... AND YET YOU MAY NEVER KNOW IT'S THERE.

IT'S A CITY WITHIN A CITY FOR HOMELESS VETERANS.

HAI CLAY VOLUNTEERS... HELPING HOMELESS VETERANS.

"just because your job is over in the military doesn't mean it has ended. By coming back to the community and serving we want to let the next generation see that it's not over with."

LAKESHA STRINGER IS A VETERAN HELPING VETERANS.

"You have to be a veteran to tend to a veteran kind of thing. We understand each others jargon and our language because we have seen the same struggles."

MITZI OXFORD WORKS FOR VALLEY RESCUE MISSION.

HER ORGANIZATION IS EXPANDING TO MEET THE GROWING NEED OF HOMELESS VETS IN THE VALLEY.

"There's about 54 beds in each place, but there are only about 300 shelter beds in all of Muscogee County. When you do the math you see that some of those people are not going to have a place to sleep."

OXFORD BELIEVES VETS ARE COMING HERE BECAUSE OF FORT BENNING AND OUR STRONG MILITARY PRESENCE.

"They've probably spent some time at Fort Benning serving there, training there and they end up liking the area and choose to move back here."

MEANWHILE CLAY IS ENCOURAGING EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY TO JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST HOMELESSNESS.

"I know there's more of me out there and there's plenty of us who want to do the same thing that I'm doing right now."

HELPING THE HOMELESS... ONE VETERAN AT A TIME.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. **6pm Pkg 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/6 Lawsuit Against The City-

CLEOPATRA HARRISON ATTENDED HER COURT DATE AFTER CALLING POLICE TO REPORT DOMESTIC ABUSE.

BUT WHEN SHE DECIDED NOT TO PRESS CHARGES, HER ATTORNEY SAYS SHE WAS TOLD TO PAY A \$150 DISMISSAL FEE.

SHE DIDN'T HAVE IT; AND WAS ARRESTED.

Obviously, you can't just arrest somebody without a warrant, unless they are committing a crime in your presence."

MARK POST AND THE SOUTHERN CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS SAY MORE THAN CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS ARE AT-STAKE.

"Obviously if they know they are going to be fined or even jailed if they report an offense, they are going to be less likely to do so, and obviously, that's a big problem.">

JOH-HANNAH HARRIS, WORKS WITH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS-- AND SHE AGREES.

"Usually when a woman is caught up in domestic violence, she don't have any money to pay anyway."

"Over the past 24 hours, News 3 has tried three times to contact the city attorney. We are yet to hear back from him. All we do have is this press release, released yesterday afternoon by the city of Columbus."

THE CITY STATES "THE MAYOR, COLUMBUS COUNCIL, AND ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS TAKE ALLEGATIONS CONTAINED IN THE LAWSUIT SERIOUSLY" AND "WANT TO ENSURE ALL CITIZENS ARE TREATED FAIRLY"

"I know of some ladies who have called the police, and the person who is abusing them has threatened them that if they go through with it, they are going to kill them."

AND POST SAYS THAT'S WHY THE LAWSUIT IS A CLASS ACTION SUIT AIMED AT ENDING THIS POLICY.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, GREG LOYD, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm Pkg 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

10/7 SGTC Active Shooter Drill - IT'S 10:04 ON WHAT SEEMS A QUIET, TYPICAL FRIDAY MORNING AT THE ENERGY AND TRANSPORTATION CENTER ON SOUTH GEORGIA TECHNICAL COLLEGE'S CAMPUS . . . THAT IS UNTIL . . .

{NAT SOUND- SHOTS}

SHOTS RING OUT . . . AND POLICE RACE ON-SCENE.

THANKFULLY, IN THIS CASE, IT'S ALL A CAREFULLY COORDINATED DRILL--- MONTHS IN THE MAKING.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY WORKERS PREPARE SHOULD S-G-T-C EVER HAVE AN ACTIVE SHOOTER ON CAMPUS.

"We do this to try and take into consideration everything that would happen, not just to prepare for the event itself, but to prepare for the evacuation, to prepare to notify the faculty, staff and students. The communication between the agencies.. All those things are important."

THE NINE AGENCIES INVOLVED WORKED TO MAKE TODAY'S SIMULATION AS REAL AS POSSIBLE.

OFFICERS CAUTIOUSLY ENTER AND WORK TO EVACUATE STUDENTS AND STAFF.

MEANWHILE, THE STENCH OF GUN POWDER LINGERS IN THE HALLWAY-- LEFTOVERS OF WHAT IS THANKFULLY JUST AN EXERCISE.

"With us having two universities here in Americus, it's important our responders know how to react, should something like this ever happen, and God, we hope it doesn't. But we have to be prepared for that event should it happen."

"To give you an idea of just how real today's exercise was, part of it involved transporting today's mock victims to the Phoebe-Sumter Hospital."

AFTER THE DRILL, SCHOOL OFFICIALS AND EMERGENCY WORKERS DISCUSSED HOW WELL THEY PERFORMED AND HOW THEY MIGHT IMPROVE.

ON YOUR SIDE IN AMERICUS, GREG LOYD, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm Pkg 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

10/10 Student Election Reax -

"I thought it was definitely interesting . . ."

COLLEGE STUDENT ALEX CARDEN WAS AMONG THE MILLIONS WATCHING THE SECOND PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE BUT HE SAYS HE'S STILL UNDECIDED.

"I think we should still wait to see a little bit more about what each candidate has to bring."

DOCTOR FRED GORDON, OF C-S-U, FEELS THE CANDIDATES NEEDED MORE FOCUS ON THEIR PLATFORMS.

"And again, I wish it would be more of a focus on policy, on substance, than just simply character denigration."

"Here at Columbus State University, I spoke with a number of younger voters, some of whom will cast their ballots for the very first time in this upcoming presidential race. A theme quickly

emerged. They say they want to hear about the candidate's stance on issues, not negativity and name-calling."

JEREMIAH BROWN IS A FRESHMAN WHO'S MADE HIS PRESIDENTIAL CHOICE.

ALREADY, HE SEES POLITICS IS A DIRTY BUSINESS.

"Now-a-days, with politics, there's no love. It's just either, 'you're with me, or I don't want to hear.' There's never any love behind it."

PROFESSOR GORDON OFFERS BOTH CLINTON AND TRUMP THE SAME ADVICE HEADING INTO THE NEXT DEBATE.

"To tell truth, and always be up front with American people, recognize that sometimes people make mistakes, and recognize, that, obviously, they are willing to listen."

AS PROFESSOR GORDON PUTS IT, THE CANDIDATES SHOULD PRACTICE LEADERSHIP THROUGH LISTENING.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, GREG LOYD, WRBL, NEWS 3. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/11 Talking To Kids About Elections -

"Politics, politics...it has to stay on politics."

IT'S ALL ADELYN CHANEY HEARS ABOUT AT HOME AND AT SCHOOL.

THE SAINT ANNE-PACELLI FRESHMAN ISN'T ONE-HUNDRED-PERCENT SOLD ON EITHER CANDIDATE...

"Mostly when I watch this debate, instead of focusing on what's happening now, both of them talk about the past."

IN THIS MOST UNIQUE ELECTION YEAR, TEACHERS LIKE HART MIZELL MUST TREAD CAREFULLY WHEN TALKING ABOUT POLITICS IN THE CLASSROOM.

"I want educated voters. I don't care what decision you make."

MIZELL SAYS HE PLAYS MODERATOR IN HEATED CLASSROOM CLASHES.

"The role is never to try and interject your own partisan politics into any type of discussion you have with the kids."

"He does a good job of just keeping everything balanced and not picking sides."

MIZELL URGES DIALOGUE IN SCHOOL

SO THAT EACH STUDENT UNDERSTANDS DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES.

"Moderate their discussion, bring it back towards the middle, bring up points for both sides and allow them to have discussions on their own."

AND THE TEACHER'S ADVICE FOR HANDLING MORE SENSITIVE DEBATE TOPICS LIKE TRUMP'S LEAKED TAPE OR CLINTON'S PAST...

"Go right at them with it. If you want them to grow or become more educated, I don't think shielding them from topics going on in the election is the way to do it. I don't think you can have real discussion about these issues and formulate your own opinions if there's any kind of curtailing anything the candidates are saying."

NO MATTER WHO STUDENTS SUPPORT,

MIZELL JUST WANTS THEM TO DO DILLIGENT RESEARCH BEFORE CHOOSING A CANDIDATE.

"I would rather choose Hillary Clinton than Donald Trump."

"I feel that Trump could kind of change some stuff up and make a difference."

ON YOUR SIDE, JOE RIPLEY, WRBL NEWS 3. **PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/12 City Employees Pay Raises -

THE CONTROVERSY BEGAN DURING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON AUGUST 9TH. CITY MANAGER ISAIAH HUGLEY APPOINTED A NEW PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR.

COUNCIL COMPARED THE NEW STARTING SALARY OF 88-THOUSAND DOLLARS WITH THE EXISITING DIRECTORS PAY.

"There was a good bit of concern about the process and about the fallout of these increases to top management."

"This packet shows what was discussed at City Council's executive session on August 9th. City Manager Isaiah Hugley said he would look into the pay raises and Councilor Judy Thomas told him to proceed."

"The City Manager granted the raises, calculated the raises and was granted the raises, but did not come back before city council."

MAYOR TERESA TOMLINSON, SAYS THE CURE FOR THE PROBLEM IS TAKING THE MONEY BACK THAT WAS ALREADY RECEIVED.

THE 16 DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DIRECTORS HAVE UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR TO PAY IT BACK.

"One of the most demoralizing things that I can imagine and we take the blame that this came about because we have to. We are the ones who run the ship day to day."

TOMLINSON SAYS SOME COUNCIL MEMBERS THOUGHT THE PAY RAISES WOULD SOLVE THE ISSUE OF NEWER EMPLOYEES COMING IN AT A HIGHER RATE THAN CURRENT EMPLOYEES ARE PAID.

"A solution to a long term problem and it wasn't handled with the process that we are used to in this community. Certainly wasn't illegal it just wasn't our best practices."

A SOLUTION TO SOME AND A SUPRISE TO MANY.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

10/14 Clown Costumes Issues -

THE LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SAYS THIS YEAR IS NOT A GOOD ONE TO SPORT OVERSIZED SHOES OR A RED NOSE... DUE TO RECENT CLOWN SIGHTINGS.

IT STARTED IN THE CAROLINAS AND QUICKLY SPREAD THROUGH SEVERAL STATES, AND IS NOW HAPPENING OVERSEAS.

THE CLOWNS WERE ALLEGED TO HAVE LURED CHILDREN INTO WOODS... BUT MOST OF THEM WERE JUST ONLINE HOAXES.

"I think it started out harmlessly, but then what was perceived by some individuals who were perhaps doing it as a joke, but it quickly turned to a point where it was not a joke and not funny, especially when it got into the issue of making threats particularly involving children."

SHERIFF JAY JONES SAYS IT ALL STEMS FROM A SAFETY ISSUE.

THEY WANT TO MAKE SURE EVERYONE IS SAFE.

WE STOPPED BY A HALLOWEEN STORE IN AUBURN.

WE'RE TOLD CLOWN COSTUMES ARE BEING SOLD... AT ABOUT THE SAME RATE AS LAST YEAR.

"While the sheriff's office is recommending that folks stray away from clown costumes this year, there are some who won't mind seeing folks wear shoes like these under one condition."

"If they want to dress up like a clown as long they aren't messing with me I'm fine with it. As long as you're safe about, then be what you want to be. That's what Halloween is for."

A TIME FOR FUN, BUT ALSO FOR SAFETY.

ON YOUR SIDE IN LEE COUNTY, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. 6pm PKG
1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

10/18 Electoral College Explainer -

SO YOU'RE HEADED TO THE POLLS TO ELECT THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

SOUNDS LIKE A DEMOCRACY RIGHT?

DOCTOR TOM DOLAN AT COLUMBUS STATE SAYS NOT SO FAST...

"The concern with the electoral system was that it needs to be kept in the hands of people who were smart enough to vote. That sounds horrible by today's standards because we want to have as many people voting as we can."

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES ARE RACING TO EARN A MAJORITY OF THE COUNTRY'S ELECTORAL VOTES: 270 OUT OF 538.

ALABAMA HAS NINE ELECTORAL VOTES.

GEORGIA HAS 16.

"When you're voting, you're not just voting for Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton or Gary Johnson. You're voting for those 16 electors who then vote for those candidates."

STATES HAVE A SET OF REPUBLICAN, DEMOCRATIC, OR LIBERTARIAN ELECTORS PREPARED TO VOTE FOR WHICHEVER CANDIDATE WINS THE STATE.

BUT LET'S SAY YOU WANT TO VOTE...FOR SOMEONE ELSE.

"We have something like a dozen candidates not on your ballot but are certified write-ins. If you write in that name it will be counted as if you voted for them on the ballot."

GEORGIA HAS A LIST OF REQUIREMENTS TO BECOME A CERTIFIED WRITE-IN CANDIDATE.

BUT, WHAT IF YOU WANTED TO WRITE IN THE TEACHER OF THE YEAR, MAYBE YOUR CHURCH PASTOR?

"But if you write in Josh McKoon or Joe Ripley or Donald duck or Mickey Mouse, that vote is not counted."

SOME ARE CALLING TO TWEAK THE SYSTEM.

MAINE AND NEBRASKA ARE EXCEPTIONS TO THE RULE.

INSTEAD OF WINNER-TAKE-ALL, THE ELECTORAL VOTES ARE SPLIT PROPORTIONALLY, BASED ON THE NUMBER OF VOTES.

"If you split those votes in every state then it would make the election a lot more competitive because it would make the candidates work a lot harder." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/20 Long Voters Lines -

"And it's such a volatile election this year, with Trump saying that he could contest the vote. . ."

PERHAPS IT'S THE PASSION OF WEDNESDAY'S FINAL PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE, OR WHETHER IT'S THE HOT TOPICS SUCH AS THAWING THE FREEZE - - BUT MUSCOGEE COUNTY VOTERS ARE MAKING SURE THEY DON'T MISS THEIR CHANCE TO EARLY VOTE.

"Whether you vote for Trump or you vote for Hillary, or you chose a third party, it's extremely important to have this opportunity to come out and vote.

THAT'S WHY NICOLE BONER SAYS SHE DIDN'T MIND WAITING IN LINE TO CAST HER EARLY BALLOT.

AND SHE'S NOT ALONE IN HER OPINION.

"I think the wait was very short. The line was very long, but the wait was very short, and we met some interesting people, too. People 90 years old are out here voting."

94 YEAR OLD BEATRICE SPENCER IS ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE.

SHE SAYS THE WAIT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE MUCH-- AND SAYS BEING HERE WAS IMPORTANT TO HER.

"I've been doing it ever since they started black folks voting here. For 94 years, I've been voting every time it said vote."

IN FACT, I COULDN'T FIND ANYONE IN THIS LONG LINE THIS AFTERNOON WHO COMPLAINED ABOUT THE WAIT.

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS NANCY BOREN'S OFFICE HAS RECEIVED SOME COMPLAINTS ABOUT LONG LINES.

SO SHE HAS SOME ADVICE FOR SHORTER WAIT TIMES.

"It appears five pm to seven is the best time for you to come, you can walk straight in, cast your ballot, and be out in about ten minutes." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/25 Smiths Mayor Proclamation -

IT'S BEEN DAY A BITTERSWEET DAY
FOR THE LONGTIME MAYOR OF
SMITHS STATION..LAFAYE DELLINGER.

TODAY - SHE WAS SURPRISED WITH
A PROCLAMTION AT THE SMITHS STATION
GOVERNMENT CENTER

DELLINGER IS THE FIRST AND ONLY
MAYOR OF SMITHS STATION.

DELLINGER WAS FIRST ELECTED
IN 1999.

CONGRESSMAN MIKE ROGERS STOPPED
BY TO SURPRISE DELLINGER -- AND SAYS
HE WOULDN'T HAVE MISSED THE MOMENTUS
DAY. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/27 AL Cams In Bathroom Arrest -

OPELIKA POLICE RECEIVED A TIP OF A CAMERA BEING PLACED IN A MEN'S
RESTROOM AT THE OPELIKA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBAL STADIUM.

AUTHORITIES IDENTIFIED TWO ADDITIONAL CAMERA LOCATIONS.

ONE IN THE MEN'S RESTROOM AT SHUG JORDAN SOCCER FIELD AT AUBURN
UNIVERSITY.

THE OTHER, ALSO IN A MEN'S RESTROOM.

RIGHT NOW POLICE ARE NOT REVEALING EXACTLY WHERE.

EVIDENCE OF THE CRIME WAS FOUND IN DOWDELL'S HOME.

WE WENT TO DOWDELL'S HOME TO SEE IF WE COULD SPEAK WITH ANYONE.

TAKE NATS OF KNOCKING

NO ONE CAME TO THE DOOR.

BUT I DID COME ACROSS A NEIGHBOR.

HE SAYS HE WAS SHOCKED TO HEAR WHAT HAPPENED.

I do know a few years ago we had a few gangs that lived here but the police did a good job of
policing that up and right now it's pretty much quiet in this area

POLICE BELIEVE ALL THE CAMERAS HAVE BEEN FOUND AND THAT THERE IS NO
THREAT TO THE COMMUNITY AT THIS TIME.

"OPD also executed a search warrant at Dowdell's residence resulting in the seizure of multiple
items of digital media. "

POLICE URGE ANYONE WHO HAD CONTACT WITH DOWDELL OR HAS
INFORMATION ABOUT HIM TO CALL THEM IMMEDIATELY. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/27 Black History Museum Woes -

THE COLUMBUS BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM IS TEMPORARILY CLOSED.

BOX BY BOX... HUNDREDS OF ARTIFACTS ARE BEING REMOVED.

DAVE GILLARM, THE MUSEUM'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WAS LOOKING TO RENOVATE
THE MUSEUM...WHEN HE REMOVED AN OLD BOOKSHELF AND SAW THE UNEXPECTED.

"It had extensive amount of termite damage. We checked some other areas and there was water
damage in the building. So then we kind of put a hold on everything to see what else was going
on in the building."

THE ARTIFACTS HAVE BEEN MOVED INTO STORAGE.

LAKESHA STRINGER, A CURATOR, SAYS THEY'VE TAKEN EXTRA PRECAUTION
MOVING THE ARTIFACTS.

"If anything was damaged I would be hurt but those are still material things and it's about the
story."

VISITORS TO THE MUSEUM WERE SHOCKED TO LEARN THE NEWS BUT SUPPORTIVE OF THE CHANGES.

"If this is supposed to be a historical place that houses things that have happened in African American history in Columbus past..Where is it at?"

"There are two types of races and then there is a rabbit race and the turtle race. Before they got started they were running the rabbit race and now that they've ran into these problems things are moving slow."

THE CURATOR UNDERSTANDS THAT SOME PEOPLE WILL BE DISAPPOINTED.

BUT SAYS THIS IS ALL PART OF GROWING PAINS.

"We're going through a growth period and I'm excited to see the difference between what is now and what will be."

ALTHOUGH THE MUSEUM IS FACING CHALLENGES NOW...THEY'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO A NEW BEGINNING THAT WILL INCLUDE NEW ARTIFACTS AND EXHIBITS.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS , W-R-B-L NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

10/28 New Info On Bathroom Cams -

GLENN LEVERETT IS THE PRESIDENT OF THE D-C-R SURVEILLANCE SHOP IN COLUMBUS.

HE DOESN'T HAVE THE EXACT STYLE OF CAMERAS - THAT KIRSTON DOWDELL IS ACCUSED OF PLACING SCHOOL BATHROOMS.

BUT HE SHOWED ME A SIMILAR DEVICE- THAT HE CALLED A COVERT P-I-R CAMERA.

LEVERETT SAYS THIS CAMERA CAN BE PURCHASED FOR ABOUT 150 DOLLARS.

HE SAYS THE P-I-R CAMERA- LIKE THE COAT HOOK STYLE ONE THAT DOWDELL USED- CAN ALSO BE HOOKED UP TO THE INTERNET- AND IT CAN ALSO RECORD VIDEO TO AN S-D CARD.

HE SAYS IF HE WANTED TO GET HIS HANDS ON THE CAMERA THAT DOWDELL USED- HE WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORK VERY HARD.

"Well anybody can order anything they want to off the Internet these days. It's readily available cuz we work with vendors that work with commercial companies."

NEWS 3 HAS OBTAINED COURT DOCUMENTS SURROUNDING DOWDELL'S CASE.

IT STATES DOWDELL PROVIDED A WRITTEN STATEMENT CONFESSING TO PLACING THE CAMERAS IN THE BATHROOM.

HIS LAPTOP WAS TURNED OVER TO DETECTIVES.

ON IT A VIDEO WAS FOUND WITH A CHILD DESCRIBED AS BEING SIX YEARS OLD- PERFORMING ORAL SEX ON A MAN. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/2 GA Amendment 3 Opposition -

BESIDES DECIDING ON CANDIDATES -- GEORGIA VOTERS WILL ALSO NEED TO DECIDE ON FOUR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS NEXT WEEK.

ONE OF THOSE - AMENDMENT 3 - IS GAINING A LOT OF ATTENTION THANKS TO A BIPARTISAN EFFORT.

A GROUP OF ATTORNEYS IS TRAVELING THE STATE TO URGE GEORGIANS TO VOTE "NO."

THE AMENDMENT WOULD MAKE IT SO THE JUDICIAL QUALIFICATION COMMISSION WOULD NO LONGER BE IN CHARGE OF REVIEWING CASES OF JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT.

INSTEAD - LEGISLATORS WOULD APPOINT AN INVESTIGATIVE PANEL. 6pm Vo/Sot:45

11/3 Angry Voters -

DOZENS OF EARLY VOTERS ARE LINING UP ACROSS THE VALLEY.
BUT THAT'S NOT THE CASE FOR EDWARD DUBOSE.
HE SAID THIS YEAR THEY WANTED TO TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT.

"My wife and I for the first time wanted to try absentee voting and so we sent off our applications at the same time. We filled them out together."

DAYS PASSED AND THE UNEXPECTED HAPPENED.

"My information came back and my wife's didn't."

TAMIKA GEIST, REGISTRATION COORDINATOR, AT THE COLUMBUS CITIZENS SERVICE CENTER, TELLS US WHAT YOU CAN DO IF THIS HAPPENS TO YOU.

"The ballots can be tracked using the Georgia my voter page. You login with your information, they can track the request from the time we receive it until the ballots been accepted back into our office."

GEIST SAYS MORE THAN 45-HUNDRED PEOPLE ARE CASTING ABSENTEE BALLOTS THIS YEAR BECAUSE IT GIVES THEM FLEXIBILITY.

"It allows them the convenience to be able to vote from home in the privacy of their own home or if they are out of town and aren't able to be back here for early voting or for election day."

IF YOU PLAN ON VOTING WITH AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, GEIST SAYS THERE ARE A FEW THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW.

BALLOTS CAN BE HAND DELIVERED BY THE VOTER .

"Unless they are bringing it in for a family member that's disabled and in those cases we can take the ballot here."

"In order for your absentee ballot to be valid, you must sign the dotted line."

MEANWHILE, DUBOSE SAYS DON'T LET ANYTHING STOP YOU FROM VOTING.

"For someone else who's listening and this happened to them, if you don't have resolution do something now."

ONE VOTE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

11/4 Bentley Remarks Reax -

"Our education system in this state sucks."

AUBURN CITY SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT KAREN DELANO SAYS SHE COULD NOT BELIEVE THOSE WORDS.

SHE SAYS SHE SENT EMAILS TO ALL EMPLOYEES IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM THANKING THEM FOR THE JOB THEY DO.

DELANO RECOGNIZES THE NEED FOR CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT, BUT SAYS HIS COMMENTS WILL BE TOUGH TO BOUNCE BACK FROM.

"You just can't put the toothpaste back in the tube. He felt that way when he said it, and at this point, I think he believes it, and that's said. To my knowledge, he has not been in a classroom in Auburn Alabama."

FORMER PHENIX CITY SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT LARRY DICHIARA WROTE AN OPEN LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR AND OTHER LEGISLATORS ABOUT THE GOVERNOR'S COMMENTS.

DICHIARA SAYS WORDS LIKE THAT ERODE THE PUBLIC'S CONFIDENCE IN SCHOOLS, BUT ALSO HURT THE KIDS.

"If I'm a teacher, I'm not sure I want to be doing this very long because I have a governor that doesn't appreciate me. If I have legislators that try to demean us in order to push some legislation, and they'll blow out my candle to make theirs burn a little brighter, then I may be one of those teachers thinking of coming to Alabama to teach, I may decide not to."

THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE SAYS BENTLEY IS NOT BACKING DOWN FROM HIS COMMENTS.

BENTLEY SAYS THERE A LOT OF AMAZING THINGS GOING ON IN CLASSROOMS AROUND THE STATE

BUT ADDS THE STATE NEEDS TO FACE REALITY.

"We can all agree that the status quo should never be accepted. We can all agree to accept changes, whatever they may be to do better. We are blessed to call this great state home. We are better than last place. Let's all work to be better."

ON YOUR SIDE IN AUBURN; ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm**
Vo/Sot:45

11/7 GA Republican In Town -

"It's the most important race in our current history."

IN AN ELECTION CYCLE WHERE COMMON GROUND IS HARD TO FIND... BOTH DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS AGREE THAT TUESDAY'S ELECTION WILL MAKE HISTORY.

"We're traveling the state one more day to tell people it's their country and it's their day to vote." Columbus is one of the hubs of our population in our state."

GEORGIA GOVERNOR NATHAN DEAL IS SUPPORTING G-O-P SENATOR JOHNNY ISAKSON'S RE-ELECTION BID AGAINST DEMOCRAT JIM BARKSDALE AND LIBERTARIAN ALLEN BUCKLEY.

"Columbus and Muscogee County always play a big role in Georgia and we want to get every vote we can in each corner of the state."

AND WHILE COLUMBUS CONSIDERS VOTING FOR EITHER HILLARY CLINTON OR DONALD TRUMP, THE TOP GEORGIA POLITICAL LEADERS STAND UNITED.

"He is my party's nominee and I'm going to support him. And I hope those who want a change in Washington will support him as well."

"We have been strong supporters of Mr. Trump since the convention and since he became the nominee because America is not looking at Trump's past. They're looking at its future."

SOME VOTERS MIGHT BE WORRIED OR DISCOURAGED ABOUT RUMORED SECURITY THREATS OR LONG LINES AT THE POLLS.

"Fortunately, Georgia is the headquarters for the cyber command at Fort Gordon. Fort Gordon on the east side of the state and Fort Benning on the west side of the state with Ft. Benning are the two keys to security in our country."

"It doesn't matter how long the line is. It doesn't matter how tough it may seem to do it. It is a right guaranteed to you as an American to decide the future of this country. It is so important. This is going to be a close race. And every single vote will matter."

GOVERNOR DEAL SAYS NOTHING SHOULD STOP VOTERS FROM MAKING THEIR VOICES HEARD ON ELECTION DAY.

"Certainly the weather seems to be cooperating. And just as soon as the election is over with, I'm praying that it's going to start raining." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/7 Democrat Get The Vote Out -

((One of the main things that volunteers are pushing for today is to not solely be focused on the presidential election but to also take into consideration just how important local elections are as well.))

MONDAY- VOLUNTEERS AND LOCAL OFFICIALS WITH THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY GATHER AT THE COLUMBUS FIELD OFFICE ON MACON ROAD.

DUBOSE PORTER- THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF GEORGIA-- JOINED THEM TO DELIVER WHAT HE SAYS IS A VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE.

"These local issues drive the community but this national election matters in every household in Georgia. This is a defining moment for everything down the ballot."

((This isn't a game and sometimes you get the feeling about politics on TV that people think it's dungeons and dragons))

COLUMBUS' MAYOR TERESA TOMLISON ALSO MENTIONS- WHEN IT COMES TO **THIS ELECTION- EXPERIENCE IS KEY.

"We wouldn't let a surgeon who didn't have experience operate on us. We wouldn't let a pilot who had never flown before fly the plane we were flying in... so we need to look at people's qualifications. We need to look at those people who are ready to be President or hold other high offices in our community."

TOMLINSON SAYS CLINTON WILL NOT ONLY MAKE HISTORY IF SHE IS ELECTED PRESIDENT- SHE SAYS IN HER OPINION SHE WILL ALSO BE THE MOST QUALIFIED PRESIDENT- TO EVER HOLD OFFICE. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/8 Voters Issues -

PHIL AND TERESA- I'M LIVE AT SMITHS STATION JUNIOR HIGH.

WE'VE BEEN GETTING COMPLAINTS OF LONG LINES, AND WE'RE HEARING THERE ARE ONLY TWO VOTING MACHINES AT THIS PRECINCT.

MUSCOGEE COUNTY HAD SOME ISSUES TONIGHT.

ONE WOMAN WAS ANGERED AFTER BEING TURNED AWAY- BUT THEN-- SHE WAS LATER TOLD- SHE COULD ACTUALLY VOTE.

YOU'RE LOOKING AT MARY RUSSELL.

SHE SAYS SHE AND HER GODDAUGHTER WENT TO VOTE EARLY THIS MORNING.

RUSSELL SAYS SHE WAS TURNED AWAY- BECAUSE HER NAME HAD BEEN PURGED FROM THE VOTING LIST.

ACCORDING TO POLL MANAGER OLISA BOWDEN- THIS HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T VOTE- FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE ELECTIONS.

THE NEWS ABOUT THIS CAUGHT RUSSELL BY SURPRISE.

SHE CALLED TONZA THOMAS- THE PRESIDENT OF THE LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE N DOUBLE A C-P.

SHE SAYS RUSSELL- SHOULD'VE BEEN GIVEN A PROVISIONAL BALLOT. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/8 Muscogee Sheriff Race -

THE CANDIDATES VYING FOR SHERIFF DARR'S SEAT INCLUDE MARK LAJOYE, DONNA TOMPKINS AND PAM BROWN.

LAJOYE IS RUNNING AS A REPUBLICAN.

HE IS IN FAVOR OF FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT.

DONNA TOMPKINS IS RUNNING AS A DEMOCRAT, AND JUST LIKE LAJOYE IS ALSO IN FAVOR OF A FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE BUDGET IN THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT.

BOTH WERE REINSTATED TO THE BALLOT AFTER APPEALING THEIR DISQUALIFICATION. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/8 3rd Cong. District Race -

HERE'S HOW REPUBLICAN DREW FERGUSON AND DEMOCRAT ANGELA PENDLEY GOT HERE TONIGHT.

FERGUSON DEFEATED MIKE CRANE IN A JULY RUNOFF TO REPRESENT THE G-O-P. PENDLEY EDGED "HER" OPPONENT TAMARKUS COOK BY A MERE 50 VOTES IN THE MAY PRIMARY.

WHILE MOST PEOPLE ARE FOCUSED ON THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE, THE BALANCE OF POWER IN CONGRESS CURRENTLY LIES WITH THE REPUBLICANS. DEMOCRATS NEED TO WIN 30 NET SEATS TO CONTROL THE U-S HOUSE, AND FOUR SEATS PLUS A HILLARY CLINTON VICTORY TO CONTROL THE SENATE.

AT THE SAME TIME, FERGUSON IS RELYING ON THE CONSERVATIVE-LEANING THIRD DISTRICT TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OF THAT SEAT. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/9 THAW And Sheriff Reax -

DONNA TOMPKINS AND SHERIFF JOHN DARR- ARE NOW IN A RUN OFF- FOR MUSCOGEE COUNTY SHERIFF.

FOLLOWING THE ELECTION- TOMPKINS RECEIVED 44 PERCENT OF THE VOTE-- DARR RECEIVED- 32 PERCENT.

TOMPKINS SAYS- SHE'S READY TO GIVE HER ALL.

"Everything you've ever learned and everything you've ever gone through has to be sharpened and honed and that's when you have to be your very best. The other thing is you never give up. You never give up hope. You just keep doing what you're doing and press on."

NEWS 3 REACHED OUT TO SHERIFF JOHN DARR FOR COMMENT -BUT WE WERE UNABLE TO REACH HIM.

IN ANOTHER RACE, MUSCOGEE VOTERS OPTED TO KEEP THE FREEZE ON PROPERTY TAXES.

COLUMBUS MAYOR TERESA TOMLINSON SAYS THE FREEZE IS HURTING COLUMBUS.

"I can tell you they're already thinking of some things we can do to make it through the next year and the next year but again those are short term solutions and so we have to understand that the freeze is strangling us. I'm not saying that to be dramatic I say that because it's a financial fact. It's a fact of math."

ANOTHER ISSUE WAS MUSCOGEE ELECTION RESULTS NOT BEING RELEASED UNTIL 5 A-M.

((I paid a visit to the Muscogee County Supervisor of Elections Office. Representatives here tell me that they are aware of the complaints. Today they're offering up their side of the story.))

"Military and overseas citizens receive electronic ballots. Those electronic ballots are sent to them through email and then are printed off and returned to us. Since we can't run paper through our voting machines we have to copy that onto actual absentee ballots. Then there is a vote review panel must review those votes to ensure that they are cast appropriately."

REPRESENTATIVES ADD- THAT PROCESS CAN BE VERY TEDIOUS.. LEADING TO A LATE NIGHT... OR IN THIS CASE A EARLY MORNING.

ON YOUR SIDE, IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY GARRETT, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/9 VETS Reax To Trump Win -

"It wasn't easy. It wasn't easy at all."

CHARLIE MAUPIN DESCRIBES HIS TIME IN THE U-S ARMED FORCES DURING WORLD WAR TWO.

NOW, HE WELCOMES THE MILITARY'S NEXT GENERATION.

"I'm very impressed with their discipline, their courtesy, and the respect they feel for us old veterans."

"Just seeing their stories and knowing what they went through, I know there's a possibility I could go through similar issues like that too."

SPECIALIST COURTNEY PETERS SAYS HER VISIT TO VETS AT THE COVENANT WOODS RETIREMENT HOME INSPIRES HER TO ACHIEVE HER GOALS.

"I actually want to get into a business with my family. My mom and twin sister are nurses. And they want to open up a retirement home."

RETIRED SERGEANT JIM WOOTERS REMEMBERS SEEING PLENTY OF ACTION DURING WORLD WAR TWO.

"Some of them had arms missing, legs missing, arms hanging on. It was an awful sight."

"Once separated by about two miles on the beaches of Normandy over 70 years ago on D-Day, Charlie Maupin and Jim Wooters now live right down the hall from each other with their memories as sharp as ever."

"I think any of us that went through it were thankful and have a little different appreciation of the country."

I ASKED WOOTERS ABOUT HIS RESPONSE TO REPUBLICAN DONALD TRUMP WINNING THE 20-16 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

HE CHUCKLED AND SAID...

"There's going to be a lot of changes." 6pm PKG 1:30, 11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/10 AL Voting Improvements -

THE ROOM WHICH HOLDS ALL ELECTION DAY MATERIAL IS QUIET NOW.

THAT WASN'T THE CASE A COUPLE DAYS AGO.

LEE COUNTY ELECTIONS MANAGER ROBERT GARRIS SAYS THERE WAS A LARGE TURNOUT AT THE POLLS EARLY IN THE MORNING.

"That established a pattern for the rest of the day of large line, we can funnel people through, people can get through the line as rapidly as we can, but since we have a large turnout already, since we have a large line already established, it's kind of hard to catch it up."

GARRIS SAYS THERE ARE 40 MACHINES THAT ARE FOR THE 23 PRECINCTS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY.

HE SAYS LARGER PRECINCTS GET TWO MACHINES, AND SMALLER PRECINCTS GET ONE.

HE ADDS THAT THEY PROVIDE PRIVACY SCREENS AND SECRECY ENVELOPES TO POLLING PLACES.

GARRIS ADDS IF SOMEONE SEES THAT THERE ARE NO SPACES LEFT, IT IS THEIR CHOICE TO FILL IT OUT IN PUBLIC.

WE CONTACTED ALABAMA'S SECRETARY OF STATE.

(PHONER GRAPHIC IN PKG- JOHN MERRILL)

"We had the largest turnout in the history of the state. You should expect delays, but we want to do everything we can to improve the efficiencies in the process so that people's wait time is reduced."

"Garris says now that the election is over, he and others will work to find ways to potentially make the voting process run smoother in the future."

"We are aware of any problems that came up on election day, and we are going to work with the officials at the precinct, the probate judge and we are going to come up with a plan for the future to ensure that any problems that did come up are either mitigated, reduced or don't happen at all."

ON YOUR SIDE IN LEE COUNTY, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/11 Veterans Day At NIM -

RICHARDA LOGACZ, LOST HER HUSBAND IN 2014.

IN HONOR OF HER HUSBAND SHE CAME TO THE NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM.

"I'm here for the paver dedication ceremony and my husband received a paver from my daughter two years ago so I come out to support all of our veterans."

LOGCAZ SAYS THE MUSEUM MEANS A LOT TO HER BECAUSE IT HOLDS PRICELESS MEMORIES OF HER LATE HUSBAND.

"The last pictures that we had together was actually in front of this museum, so the museum is important to me as well as the pavers dedication."

SHE WANTS TO MAKE SURE HE ISN'T FORGOTTEN.

"I dedicated a flower and a flag in honor of him and I also wanted to put a face to his name so I choose a few pictures of him."

HARRY KONE, A MARINE THAT SERVED AT GUATOCANAL, COMES TO THE MUSEUM TO REMEMBER HIS SERVICE

"Once a Marine you're always a Marine. We were well trained and we did what we had to do and we did it right. We had marvelous leadership . I was very proud to be a Marine.

KONE SAID HE'S PROUD OF OUR MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY AND HE HAS A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR THEM.

"We're so proud of you and you have a much more difficult time than we had. We wish you God's speed and protection and just do your duty and you'll be honoring yourself and also your country."

6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/15 Tompkins Gain Support -

"I think the voters spoke loud and clear."

DEMOCRATIC SHERIFF'S CANDIDATE DONNA TOMPKINS REFLECTS ON ELECTION DAY.

"67% of the people in this county voted for someone other than the incumbent."

20-PERCENT VOTED FOR REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE MARK LAJOYE.

"We've shared a lot of the same vision all throughout the campaign."

LAJOYE AND FORMER CANDIDATE ROBERT SMITH ARE ENDORSING TOMPKINS OVER HER OPPONENT, CURRENT SHERIFF JOHN DARR.

"If we can cross political lines and build bridges here among the candidates...because we all understand that that is what's good for the people of Muscogee County."

"I can work with anybody. It doesn't make a difference. The leader is the leader."

TOMPKINS AND SMITH, ALONG WITH WRITE-IN CANDIDATE PAM BROWN, WERE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE SHERIFF'S RACE BACK IN MARCH.

"We've gone through just about everything, that's true. But that's good in a sense because it has prepared me so much for the roller coaster ride of running a sheriff's office."

"Having outlasted three other competitors, Donna Tompkins now faces incumbent Sheriff John Darr, who's running as an independent. They face off in a runoff December 6, which will determine if Darr gets a third term or if change is coming to the sheriff's office."

"It doesn't impact me either way. My job is to continue for the next three weeks to work as hard as I can, get out here and touch as many people in this community."

SHERIFF DARR SAYS DESPITE THE TRIPLE-HEADED CHALLENGE, HE LIKES HIS CHANCES IN A RUNOFF.

"Hopefully people will recognize the things we're doing out here within the sheriff's office and in the community making a difference."

THE VOTERS WILL HAVE THEIR SAY DECEMBER 6TH.
ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, JOE RIPLEY, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

11/16 Medical Marijuana Fight Update -

DALE JACKSON'S EIGHT YEAR OLD SON COLIN HAS AUTISM.
AUTISM IS A DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER THAT IMPAIRS THE ABILITY TO
COMMUNICATE AND INTERACT.
JACKSON TELLS US THAT'S WHY HE TURNED TO CANNABIS OIL TO TREAT HIS SON.

"Began to hear about other children or autistic children around the country that had seen positive benefits."

COLIN'S GRANDMOTHER, NAN JACKSON, SAYS SHE'S SEEN POSITIVE CHANGES
SINCE USING THE OIL.

"He's so funny, his expressions and his eye contact.. I really have noticed a world of difference."

COLIN NOW SPEAKS THROUGH HIS ACTIONS.

"He comes walking out and comes to the kitchen table and just sits there and then he looks at me. He doesn't say a word, but his message is nana it's lunch time."

"When he embraces me he doesn't say that I love you daddy, but he's saying I love you daddy and as a parent that's what we so desperately need."

DALE SAYS HE'S HOPING IN 20-17, THE GEORGIA LEGISLATURE WILL PASS LAWS
ALLOWING CANNABIS OIL.

GIVING THOUSANDS OF AUTISTIC PARENTS A LEGAL WAY TO TREAT THEIR
CHILDREN.

"I guarantee you, that if you find somebody who knows a little bit about it, that person can help put you in contact with someone who can help you."

UNTIL THEN, PARENTS IN NEED WILL HAVE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE INTERNET
FOR HELP.

ON YOUR SIDE IN LAGRANGE, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

11/17 Cois Leg. Agenda For State -

STATE AND LOCAL LEADERS GOT THEIR HEADS TOGETHER
TODAY TO TALK ABOUT THE UPCOMING 20-17 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

THE 9-TH ANNUAL HOMETOWN CONNECTION WAS HELD AT THE
COLUMBUS TRADE CENTER.

CITY MANAGER ISAIAH HUGLEY EXPLAINED WHY IT'S SO IMPORTANT FOR
CITY AND STATE LEADERS TO COME TOGETHER.

"It's an opportunity to bring our state legislative delegation together with our local legislative group, the city council, to share our thoughts and concerns as they prepare to go to the next legislative session."

AMONG THE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA..

"Casino gaming piece, the tax reform piece as it relates to ad valorem tax on motor vehicles."

THE CITY MANAGER ALSO SAID THE TOPIC OF WEAPONS BEING BROUGHT INTO PLACES LIKE THE TRADE CENTER WAS DISCUSSED.

"When they lease it to large groups the law prohibits them from restricting people from bringing weapons to the facility and if they're carrying it on their hip you can't even ask them if they have a carry permit."

PETER BOWDEN, THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU THINKS IT WOULD BE WISE FOR COUNCIL TO OPPOSE LEGISLATION THAT ALLOWS ANY FORM OF DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE GEORGIA COULD POTENTIALLY LOSE BILLIONS OF DOLLARS.

"Disney has told the state film office in Georgia that if anything threatened or if any legislation was introduced and passed that dealt with discriminating against people they would pull their operation out of Georgia."

HUGLEY SAYS THE COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL WAS ABLE TO GIVE THEIR INPUT ON ALL OF THE AGENDA ITEMS.

AND NOW ITS UP TO STATE LEGISLATORS TO WORK ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF COLUMBUS.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/18 Jeff Session For AG -

ALABAMA SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN MERRILL SAYS IT'S AN AMAZING BENEFIT TO THE STATE OF ALABAMA THAT THE NEXT ATTORNEY GENERAL IS FROM THE STATE.

MERRILL SAYS THAT THERE IS NO FINER CHOICE THAN SESSIONS, AND THAT HE IS UNMATCHED IN HIS CREDIBILITY AND INTEGRITY.

"It raises our profile for the people who are residents of our state being able to recognize that one of our own has achieved one of the highest offices in the land, as the chief law enforcement officer the United States of America in the position of Attorney General."

SECRETARY OF STATE MERRILL SAID THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE FOR SESSIONS TO RESIGN FROM HIS U-S SENATOR SEAT.

GOVERNOR ROBERT BENTLEY WOULD APPOINT SOMEONE TO FILL THE SEAT ON AN INTERIM BASIS, UNTIL A SPECIAL ELECTION IS CALLED.

AUBURN POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR STEVEN BROWN SAYS THIS IS A HUGE HONOR FOR THE STATE, BUT IT DOES CREATE SOME ISSUES.

"Sometimes, your most effective advocate may not be right by your side and might be in the Senate. There's a good bit of things that President Elect Trump will want to accomplish. He'll need some help in the Senate to do that. Sessions, who has been so loyal now by his side, as opposed in the senate spearheading some of this stuff, I think he needs to think carefully about where he wants that influence to be."

BUT BOTH AGREE THAT SESSIONS' SUCCESSOR WILL HAVE SOME BIG SHOES TO FILL.

ON YOUR SIDE IN AUBURN, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/21 Woodcliff Apt. Fire -

ON MONDAY- RENTERS WERE ALLOWED TO GO INSIDE THEIR HOMES.

CURTIS CROWELL'S HOME IS A TOTAL LOSS.

STILL- HE'S DOING HIS PART TO HELP THOSE IN NEED.

"Anything can help. You have some people that three days before Thanksgiving meal they lost. It needs to be replaced. That's what I'm about to go do."

RED CROSS DISASTER RELIEF IS ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO GET RENTERS INSURANCE.

THEY SAY IT CAN BE AS LITTLE AS TEN DOLLARS.

"Call your car insurance company and you can ask for information about renter's insurance and that would help cover your personal items that were lost in the fire."

THE UNITED WAY IS ALSO LENDING A HELPING HAND.

"2-1-1 is a 24 hour a day information and referral line that people can call 365 days a year in times of crisis, disaster or other needs in the community."

RUGGED HOME FURNISHING IN PHENIX CITY IS DOING IT'S PART TOO.

"We know the recovery process is going to take a while but we're making every effort to that we can to get the donations as quick as we can so we can get them to the families as quick as possible."

SOME QUESTIONS- STILL RISE TONIGHT.

((I'm walking down a curb that separates the Woodcliff Apartments from the fire department. One thing that's raising some questions is the fact that how did a fire happen so quickly and so great..when the fire department is right next door?))

"Really kind of depends on how long that fire has been burning... What material is burning and how much air it has really kind of makes a bigger difference than just the mere location of the fire station."

TONIGHT- CREWS ARE STILL WORKING TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE OF THE FIRE.

6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/22 Zikarious Flint Folo - THE D-A PROVIDED SIX VIDEOS OF THE DRAMATIC CHASE FROM THAT SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

AROUND 2-30 ON MARCH 30TH OF 20-14- CORPORAL WILLIAM PACK WITH THE C-S-U POLICE--RESPONDED TO A REPORT OF A MAN WITH A GUN.

ACCORDING TO THE DOCUMENTS- JOSEPH IRIZARRY- A STUDENT AT THE TIME- SAYS HE SAW AN UNKNOWN BLACK MAN, WEARING A BLACK HAT, BLACK HOODY, AND JEANS WITH A HANDGUN.

ACCORDING TO THE DOCUMENTS PROVIDED BY THE D-A WHEN CORPORAL PACK ARRIVED TO THE SCENE- HE FOUND A MAN MATCHING THAT DESCRIPTION.

IT WAS LATER DETERMINED THE MAN WAS ZIKARIOUS FLINT- WHO WAS NOT A C-S-U STUDENT.

ACCORDING TO CORPORAL PACK'S STATEMENT... HE APPROACHED FLINT WHO WAS WITH A GROUP.

HE SAYS HE NOTICED FLINT- HAD WHAT APPEARED TO BE THE BOTTOM OF A GLOCK TYPE PISTOL- STICKING OUT OF HIS POCKET.

ACCORDING TO CORPORAL PACK'S STATEMENT- HE DREW HIS GUN AND ORDERED EVERYONE IN THE GROUP TO TAKE THEIR HANDS OUT OF THEIR POCKETS.

EVERYONE REPORTEDLY DID SO- EXCEPT FLINT.

MOMENTS LATER FLINT TOOK OFF.

CORPORAL PACK CALLED FOR BACKUP- AND C-S-U SERGEANT BEN SCOTT RESPONDED.

WE UNCOVERED IN THE DOCUMENTS THAT SHOW AT SOME POINT- CORPORAL PACK TRIED TO TASE FLINT BUT HE WAS TOO FAR AWAY.

MOMENTS AFTER THAT - SERGEANT SCOTT HIT FLINT WITH HIS PATROL CAR- IN AN EFFORT TO STOP HIM FROM RUNNING.

FLINT REPORTEDLY GOT BACK UP AND STARTED RUNNING.

AROUND 2-40 FLINT MADE IT TO THE INTRAMURAL FIELDS ON CAMPUS- WHERE SEVERAL STUDENTS WERE PLAYING.

ACCORDING TO THE STATEMENTS PROVIDED, WHEN SERGEANT SCOTT MADE CONTACT WITH FLINT- FLINT REPORTEDLY PULLED OUT A GUN.

THAT'S WHEN SERGEANT SCOTT FIRED TWICE AT FLINT.

ACCORDING TO SEVEN WITNESS STATEMENTS- FLINT WAS SEEN RUNNING, HOLDING SOMETHING IN HIS FRONT HOODIE POCKET.

LAST DECEMBER -- A GRAND JURY RECOMMENDED THAT THE D-A'S OFFICE NOT PURSUE THE CASE ANY FURTHER.

BUT THE FAMILY'S ATTORNEY, KATONGA WRIGHT, SAYS IT'S NOT OVER YET.

THEY NOW HAVE A CIVIL CASE PENDING IN FEDERAL COURT.

Judge Land who is presiding over the case released everyone except Officer Scott in his individual capacity. So we'll be proceeding against the officer and right now we're proceeding to go in to discovery and we'll be looking to get the information that we need to move forward. **6pm**

PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/23 Zikarious Flint Analysis -

NEWS 3 CRIME EXPERT RICKY HOLDER WEIGHS IN- ON THE SHOOTING.

WE WATCHED SOME OF THE INSTANCES THAT REPORTEDLY LED TO THE SHOOTING.

REMEMBER- ACCORDING TO THE DOCUMENTS THE D-A PROVIDED- CORPORAL WILLIAM PACK WITH C-S-U POLICE- RESPONDED TO A CALL ABOUT A MAN LOADING A GUN ON CAMPUS.

WHEN HE FOUND THE MAN WHO MATCHED THE DESCRIPTION-- HE DREW HIS GUN.

CRIME EXPERT HOLDER SAYS- CORPORAL PACK- WAS WELL WITHIN HIS RIGHTS.

"He's going to need to make sure he can protect himself because an action is quicker than a reaction. In other words if he pulls that gun up that's an action that's quicker than the officer can react, draw his gun and defend himself."

WE ALSO TALKED ABOUT SERGEANT BEN SCOTT- THE OFFICER ACCUSED OF SHOOTING FLINT TO DEATH.

REMEMBER ACCORDING TO THE D-A DOCUMENTS- SCOTT AT SOME POINT HIT FLINT WITH HIS CAR- WHILE HE WAS RUNNING AWAY.

I ASKED HOLDER- IF HE THOUGHT THAT WAS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

"I guess if it's covered under their policy he's covered through the university but that's typically not what you're trained to do."

((Several witnesses who were on campus that day say they saw Flint running holding something that appeared to be very heavy in his front hoodie pocket. I sat down with our News 3 crime expert and showed him the video and asked him what he thought.))

"None of the videos that we saw physically showed a gun itself but it showed he was holding something with his right hand ."

A GRAND JURY DISMISSED THE CRIMINAL CASE.

RIGHT NOW A CIVIL CASE IS PENDING IN FEDERAL COURT.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, I'M ASHLEY GARRETT FOR WRBL NEWS 3. **6pm PKG**

1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/28 Bones found at Construction -

ACCORDING TO CONSTRUCTION WORKERS- THE BONES WERE FOUND NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF WARM SPRINGS ROAD AND 17TH AVENUE AROUND 8-30 MONDAY MORNING.

THAT'S WHERE A ROAD WIDENING PROJECT HAS BEEN TAKING PLACE- FOR MONTHS.

I SPOKE TO THE CONSTRUCTION WORKER WHO FOUND THEM- MARK SLOCUMB.

HE EXPLAINS WHAT HIS TEAM WAS DOING- WHEN THE BONES WERE FOUND.

we had to put up some pipe and a sewer system was in the way. We pulled it up and that's when we found an old whiskey bottle and that's what we wanted, then the bones started falling out. during the time the bones were found the area behind me was heavily populated with construction workers and according to Muscogee County Deputy Coroner Charles Newton the

bones that were found belong to a large animal but one of the construction workers tonight says- they're not buying that >

SLOCUMB SAYS HE'S BEEN CONTRACTED BY CEMETERIES IN THE PAST.

HE SAYS HE'S ACCUSTOMED TO SEEING HUMAN BONES.

HE SAYS- WHERE THE BONES WERE FOUND - CAUSED HIM TO BE ON HIGH ALERT.

under a foundation? Seems like the best way to get rid of something

SLOCUMB SAYS THERE WERE OTHER THINGS THAT WERE FOUND- THAT WERE A LITTLE WEIRD TO HIM.

there were bricks, there were bottles, we even found a melted glass. You don't normally see things like that when you're out on sites like this? Nah.

AFTER THE BONES WERE REMOVED- CONSTRUCTION WORK RESUMED IN THE AREA. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/29 Zikarious Flint Other side -

ON TUESDAY, I SAT DOWN WITH ANTONIO CARTER- THE SPOKESPERSON FOR THE FAMILY OF ZIKARIOUS FLINT.

LAST WEEK THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE RELEASED SEVERAL PIECES OF VIDEO FROM MARCH 30TH 20-14 AND ALSO HUNDREDS OF DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE C-S-U OFFICER- INVOLVED SHOOTING DEATH.

CARTER AND I WATCHED SOME OF THE VIDEO OF THE VIDEO TOGETHER.

REMEMBER SEVEN WITNESSES SAY, THEY SAW FLINT RUNNING FROM POLICE WHILE HOLDING SOMETHING HEAVY IN HIS FRONT HOODIE POCKET.

WHEN CARTER WATCHED THE VIDEO WITH ME- HE SAID-

he was running. That's the one thing we all know and we can all tell here. He was actually running from police. That's all we know. Why? I have absolutely no idea. I wish I could ask him why he was running.

(("Carter says he was looking for the District Attorney's Office and the G-B-I to do more with the weapon that was allegedly found on Flint...and by more-- he says quote- the basics"))

just test the weapon, just test it if that's the case. If people say they saw Zikarious running with a gun...well test it!

CARTER SAYS THE FAMILY IS DISPLEASED WITH THE WAY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE HAS CHOSEN TO HANDLE THIS CASE. THEY'RE NOW LOOKING TO HAVE DISTRICT ATTORNEY SLATER- REMOVED FROM HER POSITION.

CARTER EXPLAINS WHY.

they never finger printed the gun and they never did DNA testing on the weapon and it is our position they did not do those things because they knew for a fact that the weapon was not Zikarious' 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

12/1 Meriwether Pitbull Update -

WEDNESDAY- 52 YEAR OLD SHERMAN HOLT ATTENDED A HEARING SURROUNDING THE CASE.

REMEMBER BACK IN OCTOBER- HE WAS ARRESTED- AFTER A SMALL PITBULL WAS DISCOVERED- DRAGGING A LARGE CHAIN AROUND IT'S NECK.

HOLT WAS LATER RELEASED ON A MORE THAN 200 THOUSAND DOLLAR BOND.

I CAUGHT UP WITH JAZMIN STOREY- THE DIRECTOR OF THE MERIWETHER COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER.

SHE SAYS-- WHEN SHE GOT THE DOGS EARLIER THIS YEAR- THEY WERE IN REALLY BAD SHAPE.

all covered in fleas, every single one of them. There was not a spot on the dogs that you didn't find a flea. Fleas create tapeworms. They all needed to be de-wormed. They all needed to be vaccinated which we did immediately before they even hit the shelter.

AFTER MEETING WITH A HEALTH BOARD DURING COURT THIS WEEK- IT'S BEEN DECIDED THAT THE DOGS WILL BE TURNED OVER TO THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

STOREY SAYS THAT ORGANIZATION WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE THE DOGS- A MUCH-NEEDED REHABILITATION PROCESS.

FROM THERE- THE DOGS WILL BE ADOPTED OUT- BUT NOT TO JUST ANY ONE.

these people need to run through a background check before they get their hands on one of these dogs, because the last thing you need is for the wrong person to end up with a dog like this. We don't want them to end up in the same situation

((I'm holding Anna. Anna was born just eight weeks ago. She was found with the 33 other abused dogs back on October 27th. Representatives with the Meriwether County Animal Shelter say they're filled to capacity and any licensed rescue looking to pull a dog that's not tied to this case, can do so now, free of charge))

ANYONE INTERESTED IN ADOPTING ONE OF THOSE DOGS- SHOULD CONTACT THE MERIWETHER COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER.

FOR THAT NUMBER- BE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE- WRBL DOT COM. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

12/1 Standoff Officer New Vest -

THE AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 21ST STILL PLAYS IN JOSHUA MCQUIEN'S MIND.

MCQUIEN AND ANOTHER OFFICER ENTERED A HOME WHERE A POSSIBLE BURGLARY SUSPECT WAS STILL INSIDE.

"It all happens in a split second. One minute, everything is good. The next second, it changes."

MCQUIEN WAS SHOT BY A 40 CALIBER PISTOL IN THE SHOULDER.

HE KNEW IT RIGHT AWAY.

AFTER LETTING OTHER AUTHORITIES KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, ONE THING CAME TO HIS MIND.

"Then after that moment, honestly all I could think about were my kids. That's the first thought that came to my mind."

THE VEST MCQUIEN WAS WEARING WAS WORN PROPERLY, STOPPING THE BULLET.

THURSDAY, MCQUIEN RECEIVED A NEW VEST FROM THE COMPANY THAT PROVIDES VESTS FOR THE COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

"The Columbus Police Department gives officers a new vest every five years, and they say these vests can take a beating."

"I have taken a vest much like this and shot it over 60 times with a pistol- stops every round. They will take a lot of pounding. They are very much over engineered."

MCQUIEN SAYS HE HAS BEEN MOVED BY THE OUTPOURING OF SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY, AND KEEPS THE LORD WITH HIM AT ALL TIMES.

"When we put on this vest, this badge, this gun, this equipment, we go out into a fight against evil in this world. I believe if we have faith in God, and believe in him, he's gonna be with us. He won't leave us. He won't forsake us, and he'll protect us."

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

12/6 VA Hospital Issues - MILLARD NORMAN IS A 62-YEAR-OLD DISABLED VETERAN FROM PHENIX CITY.

HE SAYS HE IS BI-POLAR, HAS SCHITZOPHRENIA, ARTHRITIS AND SEVERAL OTHER ILLNESSES.

NORMAN SAYS SINCE JUNE- IT'S BEEN DIFFICULT GETTING WHAT HE NEEDS FROM THE V-A HOSPITAL IN TUSKEGEE.

"These are all the medicines I had. I took it to her right after I got out of the hospital back in June. I told her this is what I need you to order. She ordered nothing."

NORMAN SAYS HE TAKES DOZENS OF PRESCRIPTIONS, DAILY.

HE SAYS HE'S HAD TROUBLE GETTING ONE OF THEM FILLED.

HYDROCODONE. HE SAYS IT HELPS WITH HIS PAIN.

"She made it so cotton-pickin hard to get anything out of her."

News 3 understands that Mr. Norman is not the only veteran who appears to have concerns with VA Hospitals. We reached out to the Public Affairs Officer at the VA Hospital in Tuskegee to find out what kind of plans are in place to come up with an overall solution.

"Veterans can order their medication online through my health e vet. So that way it cuts down on waiting in the lines of the pharmacy to get their medication refilled and also veterans can call the toll free number which is an automated line. They can reorder their medication that way."

SINCE WE REACHED OUT TO THE TUSKEGEE V-A.

IT HAS NOW ORDERED THE MEDICINE THAT NORMAN SAYS HE NEEDS.

ON YOUR SIDE- IN COLUBUS- ASHLEY GARRETT- WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

12/7 Two Americus Officers Shot -

AMERICUS POLICE OFFICER 25-YEAR-OLD NICHOLAS RYAN SMARR WAS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY.

THIS WAS THE SCENE EARLIER TODAY WHEN... (??)

ONE POLICE OFFICER IS DEAD--ANOTHER IN CRITICAL CONDITION FOLLOWING A SHOOTING TODAY IN AMERICUS...

HERE'S WHAT WE KNOW SO FAR..

***POLICE HAVE RELEASED A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE SUSPECT THEY'RE LOOKING FOR: HE IS 32-YEAR-OLD MINGUELL KENNEDY LEMBRICK.

***THE GBI SAYS LEMBRICK WAS INVOLVED IN AN INCIDENT AT APARTMENTS NEAR GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY. THE CAMPUS HAS BEEN ON LOCKDOWN.

NEWS THREE'S GREG LOYD IS IN AMERICUS...

HE JOINS US LIVE..

GREG WHAT CAN YOU TELL US?

SINCE AS POLICE SEARCH FOR THE SHOOTER.

*** THIS IS HOW THEY'RE SEARCHING...BY AIR, AND ON THE STREETS..

THE POLICE SAY SUSPECT WAS INVOLVED IN A DOMESTIC INCIDENT AT APARTMENTS NEAR GSU THIS MORNING. HELICOPTER IN AIR, COP CARS SPEEDING THROUGH AREA. SUSPECT BELIEVED TO BE HIDING IN THE AREA

AMERICUS POLICE CHIEF MARK SCOTT CONFIRMS ONE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICERS IS DEAD AND A GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS SECURITY OFFICER IS IN "VERY, VERY CRITICAL CONDITION". BOTH WERE SHOT AT AN

APARTMENT COMPLEX NEAR THE GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS.

THE SCHOOL REMAINS ON LOCKDOWN WHILE POLICE SEARCH FOR THE SUSPECT: 32-YEAR-OLD MINGUELL KENNEDY LEMBRICK.

BRYANT SAYS THE OFFICERS' NAMES HAVE NOT BEEN RELEASED.

AMERICUS POLICE NAME THE SUSPECT WHO SHOT AND INJURED TWO OFFICERS WEDNESDAY MORNING AS 32-YEAR-OLD MINGUELL KENNEDY LEMBRICK.

AN ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT WITH THE SUMTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SAYS AN AMERICUS POLICE OFFICER AND A PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER FROM GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY WERE BOTH SHOT AT AN APARTMENT COMPLEX NEAR THE CAMPUS.

THE SUMTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CONFIRMS TO WRBL ONE OF TWO OFFICERS SHOT WEDNESDAY MORNING HAS BEEN AIRLIFTED TO A MACON HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT.

AN EARLIER ALERT FROM SCHOOL SAYS THE SHOOTING HAPPENED NEAR THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE GRIFFIN BELL GOLF COURSE.

IT ALSO SAYS ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF ARE BEING TOLD TO STAY WHEREVER THEY ARE, LOCK ALL DOORS AND WINDOWS, AND TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

12/9 Americus Officer Folo -

RESIDENTS SAY- THE BELL AT THE TOP OF THE AMERICUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH RINGS EACH HOUR- AND BEFORE THIS WEEK'S SHOOTING OF TWO POLICE OFFICERS- IT EVOKED A PLEASANT FEELING.

PEOPLE ARE PAYING TRIBUTE TO OFFICER RYAN SMARR- AND ALSO OFFICER JODY SMITH.

SMITH WAS AN OFFICER ON THE CAMPUS OF GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY.

A FELLOW OFFICER STRUGGLED TO GIVE US A COMMENT TONIGHT.
"Were just trying to make it, mourning the loss of a friend and a family member."

WE MANAGED TO CATCH OFFICERS PUTTING A BLACK CAPE ON THE POLICE CAR OF OFFICER SMARR.

"News 3 has learned that Americus Police Chief Mark Scott has been in a meeting for several hours with other law enforcement officials planning not one but two funerals one for Americus Officer Nicolas Smarr and the other officer- Georgia Southwestern State University Officer Jody Smith. I caught up with a man who says he had lived in this area his entire life and he was distraught to learn the news about the man he had built a relationship with- that man- Officer Nicolas Smarr."

"He was a real nice person super nice when I saw the picture that he was the one killed I was like wow.

THAT WAS SAM LESTER.

HE SAYS HE FIRST MET SMARR- WHEN HE WORKED AT THE FOOD LION IN AMERICUS WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

12/13 GBI Asked to Probe MCSD -

"It's bizarre. It's just bizarre behavior."

IT'S HOW MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER PAT HUGLEY-GREEN

DESCRIBES ADDITIONAL MEASURES TAKEN TO SEE IF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT COVERED UP FACTS IN TWO INVESTIGATIONS.

SHE SAYS THE SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS NOTHING TO HIDE.

BOARD MEMBER FRANK MYERS BELIEVES THE SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS NOT BEEN STRAIGHTFORWARD.

"We allege there has been criminal conduct committed."

BASED ON HIS INFORMATION...

"The DA asked the GBI to become involved in investigating these issues."

WE SPOKE WITH DON KELLY IN THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, WHO CONFIRMED THAT THEY REQUESTED THE G-B-I'S ASSISTANCE IN THESE CASE.

HOWEVER, THE G-B-I SAYS THEY WILL NOT START ANOTHER INVESTIGATION WHILE COLUMBUS POLICE ARE STILL LOOKING INTO THE AMPUTEE STUDENT AND DEADLY BUS CRASH CASES.

"If there's a board member who has additional information, it's their responsibility to share that information with the rest of the board."

"My training as a lawyer tells me to go to law enforcement, not a fellow board member."

"It's not appropriate for us to take these personal family tragedies and make some agenda out of them and and exploit them."

MEANWHILE, MYERS BELIEVES IN A DIFFERENT PATH TO JUSTICE.

"It's like a weight being lifted off our shoulders. And I'm confident that the GBI will be involved at some point and that justice will be done."

ON YOUR SIDE, JOE RIPLEY, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

12/14 Officer Jody Smith Funeral - SEVERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES SURROUNDED THE CAMPUS OF GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY FOR THE FUNERAL OF FALLEN OFFICER JODY SMITH.

MANY WE SPOKE WITH SHARED THEIR MEMORIES OF HIM.

ONE WOMAN SAYS HE HELPED HER FIND HER STOLEN DOG.

"You think when they get a call like that it's probably not a big priority or anything but he went up there and he was very respectful."

"Several members of the Patriot Guard Riders turned out to show their support for Officer Jody Smith. Today, they explain what their organization represents."

our mission is to stand and support families of service men and women, police officers and first responders

WE ALSO HEARD FROM A CUSTODIAN WHO WORKS AT GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY WITH OFFICER SMITH.

SHE IS CHOOSING TO REMEMBER THE GOOD TIMES.

SHE SAYS SMITH WOULD OFTEN PUT A SMILE ON HER FACE.

"He was a nice guy. He loved everybody all you gotta go is go to him and ask him to do anything for you he will. I tell him coming out the door. He's gonna come out laughing at me, tell me it smell good in here all the time. It's her building if it smell like clorox."

WE LEARNED MORE ABOUT OFFICER SMITH.

WE'RE TOLD HE WAS A DEVOTED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.

HE WORKED FOR SEVERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES INCLUDING; TELFAIR COUNTY SHERIFFS, SUMTER COUNTY SHERIFFS, AND ALSO THE WHEELER COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE.

HIS BODY WAS BURIED AT THE JOHNSON CEMETERY IN AMERICUS.

IN AMERICUS, ASHLEY GARRETT, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

12/14 Officer Involved Shooting -

AFTER ALL OF THE POLICE INVOLVED SHOOTINGS, BACK COLUMBUS BLUE, WANTS THE COMMUNITY TO SHOW MORE SUPPORT FOR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.

"The average person out there needs to know that in this town we care about our peace keepers."

I SPOKE WITH SEVERAL OFFICERS WHO ARE CONCERNED THAT THE NEGATIVE IMAGES OF POLICE ON T-V CAN VILLANIZE THE OFFICERS.

"Concentrating in one direction and I think their narrative is somewhat assisting or fueling the flame."

ALTHOUGH OFFICERS PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE EVEREADY.. CERTAIN CALLS CAN BE A LITTLE MORE ALARMING.

"Serving warrants, answering disturbance calls and of course domestic disturbance calls have always been some of our worst calls to answer."

I ASKED THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE IF OUR SECOND AMMENDMENT RIGHTS PLAYED A BIG PART IN THE POLICE SHOOTINGS.

HE SAID NO.

"You look at the vast majority of shootings that are carried out by individuals committing crimes and I think if you look at the traffic stop where two officers were shot in North Georgia, this was a career criminal driving a stolen vehicle."

ROBERTSON ALSO SAID THE REDERIC WITH CERTAIN POLICE HATE GROUPS ALSO ADD FUEL TO THE FIRE.

"That bad in law enforcement is well below one percent. The number one complaint against law enforcement is now excessive use of force. Excessive use of force is probably in the top 10."

MAJOR SLOUCHECK SAYS NOW... OFFICERS ACROSS GEORGIA ARE NOW ON HIGH ALERT.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

12/16 Americus News Conference -

AMERICUS POLICE CHIEF MARK SCOTT SAYS IT'S BEEN TOUGH TRYING TO COPE WITH THE LOSS OF AMERICUS OFFICER NICHOLAS SMARR AND ALSO OFFICER JODY SMITH.

THE BEST FRIENDS DIED LAST WEEK- WHILE RESPONDING TO A DOMESTIC CALL. THE MAN ACCUSED OF SHOOTING THEM- MINQUELL LEMBRICK- DIED FROM A SELF INFLICTED GUNSHOT WOUND.

CHIEF SCOTT SAYS- THERE ARE PLANS IN PLACE- TO HELP OFFICERS AND STAFF- GRIEVE.

"We have counseling sessions that the officers are being encouraged to attend. We had voluntary sessions that were available. We have some mandatory sessions that are coming up next week."

OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY ARE DOING THEIR PART TO NOT ONLY HELP THE FAMILIES OF THE OFFICERS WHO DIED- BUT ALSO THE FAMILY OF THE SUSPECT.

ONE WOMAN EXPLAINS HOW LEMBRICK'S MOM RESPONDED TO A NICE GESTURE. "Took carloads of food that was left. She was so shocked. She said I didn't know that the people loved us."

During today's news conference Police Chief Mark Scott did announce there have been several attacks made, not only on the police, but also the family of the suspect and also the families of the officers who died.

"I want the community to know that these hateful people do not speak for me. They do not speak for the Americus Police Department and they do not speak for the people of Americus and Sumter County"

CHIEF SCOTT SAYS- THE THREATS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE- THROUGH PHONE CALLS AND ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

HE EXPLAINS WHAT THE CONSEQUENCES ARE- FOR THOSE ACCUSED OF MAKING SOME HURTFUL AND THREATENING COMMENTS.

"We are working with our state and federal partners to record things that have been said, especially the things that have posted on social media. We will identify who these people are. Any one who has posted a threat against someone they will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law."

CHIEF SCOTT SAYS- THE F-B-I AND THE G-B-I ARE PARTNERING TO FIND THE PEOPLE MAKING THREATS. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

12/19 Barbour Co. Shelter Suit -

RENEE KLEIN AND BETTY KRAMER LOVE ANIMALS.

RENEE HAS TAKEN IN THOUSANDS OF THEM OVER THE YEARS.

BETTY CURRENTLY HAS 13 DOGS AND MORE THAN 40 KITTENS IN HER HOME.

"I had two that came, a lady called me saying my neighbors had moved and left two small dogs, and I have two large dogs and I know they'll hurt them. Can you take them? What can I do? I don't want them to get killed."

KRAMER SAYS HER AND OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY RECEIVE ANIMALS FROM VARIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES AND TAKE CARE OF THEM WITH THEIR OWN MONEY.

THEY SAY THE EXPERIENCE CAN TAKE A TOLL.

"Heartbreaking. You lose faith in humanity, and we cry a lot. We do a lot of crying, but how can you look at these faces and say, oh it's ok somebody threw you out or it's ok if you're starving to death. You can't do it. You just can't do it; at least I can't."

KRAMER AND KLEIN ARE SOME OF THE PLAINTIFFS IN THE LAWSUIT.

THEY ARE REPRESENTED BY THE ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND.

THEIR GOAL IS TO GET A SHELTER AND AN ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER IN THE COUNTY.

"This shelter was built in the county more than 10 years ago, but it's never been used."

"If it does come to light, I have mixed emotions. If it's done right as other counties and states have done, it will be wonderful. I don't have much faith in the system down here, but we'll see."

ON YOUR SIDE IN BARBOUR COUNTY, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

ECONOMY :

10/5 VETS Helping Homeless VETS -

IT'S RIGHT IN YOUR FACE... AND YET YOU MAY NEVER KNOW IT'S THERE.
IT'S A CITY WITHIN A CITY FOR HOMELESS VETERANS.

HAI CLAY VOLUNTEERS... HELPING HOMELESS VETERANS.

"just because your job is over in the military doesn't mean it has ended. By coming back to the community and serving we want to let the next generation see that it's not over with."

LAKESHA STRINGER IS A VETERAN HELPING VETERANS.

"You have to be a veteran to tend to a veteran kind of thing. We understand each others jargon and our language because we have seen the same struggles."

MITZI OXFORD WORKS FOR VALLEY RESCUE MISSION.

HER ORGANIZATION IS EXPANDING TO MEET THE GROWING NEED OF HOMELESS VETS IN THE VALLEY.

"There's about 54 beds in each place, but there are only about 300 shelter beds in all of Muscogee County. When you do the math you see that some of those people are not going to have a place to sleep."

OXFORD BELIEVES VETS ARE COMING HERE BECAUSE OF FORT BENNING AND OUR STRONG MILITARY PRESENCE.

"They've probably spent some time at Fort Benning serving there, training there and they end up liking the area and choose to move back here."

MEANWHILE CLAY IS ENCOURAGING EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY TO JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST HOMELESSNESS.

"I know there's more of me out there and there's plenty of us who want to do the same thing that I'm doing right now."

HELPING THE HOMELESS... ONE VETERAN AT A TIME.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm**
Vo/Sot:45

10/12 City Employees Raises -

THE CONTROVERSY BEGAN DURING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON AUGUST 9TH.
CITY MANAGER ISAIAH HUGLEY APPOINTED A NEW PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR.

COUNCIL COMPARED THE NEW STARTING SALARY OF 88-THOUSAND DOLLARS WITH THE EXISTING DIRECTORS PAY.

"There was a good bit of concern about the process and about the fallout of these increases to top management."

"This packet shows what was discussed at City Council's executive session on August 9th. City Manager Isaiah Hugley said he would look into the pay raises and Councilor Judy Thomas told him to proceed."

"The City Manager granted the raises,calculated the raises and was granted the raises, but did not come back before city council."

MAYOR TERESA TOMLINSON, SAYS THE CURE FOR THE PROBLEM IS TAKING THE MONEY BACK THAT WAS ALREADY RECEIVED.

THE 16 DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DIRECTORS HAVE UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR TO PAY IT BACK.

"One of the most demoralizing things that I can imagine and we take the blame that this came about because we have to. We are the ones who run the ship day to day."

TOMLINSON SAYS SOME COUNCIL MEMBERS THOUGHT THE PAY RAISES WOULD SOLVE THE ISSUE OF NEWER EMPLOYEES COMING IN AT A HIGHER RATE THAN CURRENT EMPLOYEES ARE PAID.

"A solution to a long term problem and it wasn't handled with the process that we are used to in this community. Certainly wasn't illegal it just wasn't our best practices."

A SOLUTION TO SOME AND A SUPRISE TO MANY.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/13 State Film Meeting - NEW AT 6...

THE FILM AND TV INDUSTRY IN GEORGIA TOOK ANOTHER STEP FORWARD TODAY IN FORT VALLEY.

TODAY - REPRESENTAIVES FROM A HOUSE STUDY COMMITTEE MET AT FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY TO DISCUSS HOW TO ADD MORE DIVERSITY TO THE 7-BILLION DOLLAR FILM AND TV INDUSTRY IN GEORGIA.

IT WAS THE SECOND OF 5 PUBLIC HEARINGS TO BE HELD ACROSS THE STATE.

THEY'RE ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN FINDING WAYS TO ENCOURAGE MINORITY PARTICIPATION IN THE BOOMING INDUSTRY. **6pm**

Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45

10/20 Long Voters Lines -

"And it's such a volatile election this year, with Trump saying that he could contest the vote. . ."

PERHAPS IT'S THE PASSION OF WEDNESDAY'S FINAL PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE, OR WHETHER IT'S THE HOT TOPICS SUCH AS THAWING THE FREEZE - - BUT MUSCOGEE COUNTY VOTERS ARE MAKING SURE THEY DON'T MISS THEIR CHANCE TO EARLY VOTE.

"Whether you vote for Trump or you vote for Hillary, or you chose a third party, it's extremely important to have this opportunity to come out and vote.

THAT'S WHY NICOLE BONER SAYS SHE DIDN'T MIND WAITING IN LINE TO CAST HER EARLY BALLOT.

AND SHE'S NOT ALONE IN HER OPINION.

"I think the wait was very short. The line was very long, but the wait was very short, and we met some interesting people, too. People 90 years old are out here voting."

94 YEAR OLD BEATRICE SPENCER IS ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE.

SHE SAYS THE WAIT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE MUCH-- AND SAYS BEING HERE WAS IMPORTANT TO HER.

"I've been doing it ever since they started black folks voting here. For 94 years, I've been voting every time it said vote."

IN FACT, I COULDN'T FIND ANYONE IN THIS LONG LINE THIS AFTERNOON WHO COMPLAINED ABOUT THE WAIT.

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS NANCY BOREN'S OFFICE HAS RECEIVED SOME COMPLAINTS ABOUT LONG LINES.

SO SHE HAS SOME ADVICE FOR SHORTER WAIT TIMES.

"It appears five pm to seven is the best time for you to come, you can walk straight in, cast your ballot, and be out in about ten minutes." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/21 Cyber Security Awareness -

"Once you sit down at a keyboard and type it in, it's there."

AND ONCE IT'S THERE, ANY INFORMATION IS VULNERABLE TO ATTACK.

RETIRED LT. GENERAL RONALD BURGESS WORKS AS A SENIOR COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS, CYBER PROGRAMS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS, AT AUBURN UNIVERSITY.

HE SAYS WIKILEAKS AND POSSIBLE HACKS BY THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT SHOULD CONCERN US ALL.

"Take a look at the United States, and take a look at what we call our critical infrastructure. If you look across that critical infrastructure, whether that be the electrical power grid, whether that be the transportation sector, the water sector, whatever, all of them utilize cyber in some form or fashion or they use automation. If they are automated and they have connectivity, then they are susceptible to being hacked by someone."

LT. GENERAL BURGESS SAYS WHEN IT COMES TO PERSONAL SECURITY, DON'T BE LAZY ABOUT PASSWORDS.

MAKE THEM COMPLEX.

TODAY'S SOPHISTICATED CRIMINALS DEMAND IT.

"You need to have a relatively intricate password. There are tools that will help you determine whether your password is strong or not on the Internet, so you can determine that. You need to change them often. You don't need to have the same password for a bunch of different accounts or even a base extension of that."

ON YOUR SIDE, GREG LOYD, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/22 EAMC New Cancer Center -

WITH MORE THAN THREE-THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, EAST ALABAMA MEDICAL CENTER IS THE SECOND LARGEST EMPLOYER IN LEE COUNTY.

IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING HIGH QUALITY CARE, OPELIKA MAYOR GARY FULLER SAYS IT IMPACTS THE AREA IN ANOTHER WAY AS WELL.

"It really is an economic driver because so many people from surrounding areas seek treatment here. They come in while they're here, sometimes family will stay for a few nights. They shop in our stores. They visit our restaurants."

THAT DRIVE IS EXPANDING.

THE HOSPITAL IS SEEKING APPROVAL TO BUILD A NEW CANCER CENTER UP THE ROAD FROM THE CURRENT HOSPITAL.

THE PROJECT IS SLATED TO COST A LITTLE MORE THAN 40 MILLION DOLLARS.

"It's here off Village Professional Drive where the center would go, and many are hoping this facility comes to be."

WE REACHED OUT TO THE HOSPITAL.

THEY PROVIDED US WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT

"As the leader of healthcare services in our community, we are always looking for opportunities to improve the services we provide. We are excited about the possibility of getting approval to pursue a new Cancer Center. We know this would be a great benefit for the patients we serve. It will also help us continue our mission of providing high quality, compassionate healthcare."

"The convenience for these families that have a loved one who needs treatment, can get it right here and get world class treatment right here. That's a very positive thing."

CLOSE TO FAMILY.... CLOSE TO HOME.

ON YOUR SIDE IN OPELIKA, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/22 Crowell Feed 100 Families - "It's a blessing to my family."

DEBORAH GORDON SAYS SHE'S THANKFUL TO GO TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY'S.

"We've been having some ups and downs. But thank God, He came through for me."

AND SHE HAS A LITTLE MORE TO BE THANKFUL FOR WITH THANKSGIVING RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER, THANKS TO HER LOCAL CHURCH...

"We need to think about people that don't have it as well as we might have it. People find themselves in a generous spirit during this time of the year."

PASTOR REGGIE WILLIAMS IS CONTINUING SOUTH COLUMBUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S LONGSTANDING TRADITION OF GIVING AWAY FOOD TO THOSE IN NEED.

HE WANTS GENEROSITY TO BE CONTAGIOUS.

"No matter what you have, you can always give."

"South Columbus United Methodist Church is helping 100 families this Thanksgiving by stuffing 100 of these grocery bags with food. But the giving doesn't stop there. In fact, former Carver standout and now in the NFL, running back Isaiah Crowell stepped up to the plate to match their donation with 100 turkeys."

"Sometimes I thought he wasn't listening. But he was. So Isaiah has a very grateful heart and this is a very humbling experience."

CROWELL HASN'T ALWAYS HAD AN N-F-L CONTRACT TO PROVIDE FOR HIS FAMILY THOUGH..

"It takes me back to the struggle when I was right there, sitting in those people's places. I was sitting in their seats."

AND NOW, THE CROWELL FAMILY IS STANDING UP TO SERVE.

ISAIAH'S MOTHER SAYS SHE'S THANKFUL THAT HER SON IS ABLE TO GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH HE GREW UP.

"This is another chapter in the book. I hope I live to see it."

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, JOE RIPLEY, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

11/23 Impact Of Drunk Driving - hardest part is right now because you miss them so bad and you see other people giving thanks, and your heart is still broken

"I am forever changed. My whole family is forever changed."

THAT CHANGE WAS DUE TO DRINKING AND DRIVING.

AFTER HER SON JUSTIN WAS KILLED BY A DRUNK DRIVER IN 2011.

A YEAR LATER, HER GODSONS WERE ALSO KILLED BY A DRUNK DRIVER.

LORETTA ROBINSON SAYS THIS TIME OF YEAR IS EXTREMELY TOUGH.

"It's so preventable. I know for me, just being able to think about getting up and moving on, just doing the daily, necessary things was a struggle and it sometimes still is. I think the hardest part is right now because you miss them so bad and you see other people giving thanks, and your heart is still broken."

"In addition to giving up your keys if you've been drinking, police officers have other tips for those who may be out on the road during the holiday."

"Just have patience. You know there is going to be a lot more traffic on the road than normally. It will take you a lot longer to get where you need to go than normally. So leave a little early and have patience. Expect everybody to be just as tired and just as frustrated as you are and work together."

AS FOR ROBINSON, SHE WANTS FOLKS TO HAVE FUN, BUT TO THINK BEFORE THEY ACT.

"Be responsible and think of the kind of pain it can inflict on a family or even your family. I think most people think that it wouldn't be them or it couldn't be them until it is them."

ON YOUR SIDE IN OPELIKA, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

11/25 Black Friday Early Shopping -

BEFORE THE SUN COMES UP, AND BEFORE THE DOORS EVEN OPEN,

PEOPLE ARE IN LINE.

WAITING PATIENTLY WITH ONE THING ON THEIR MINDS.

"Bargains. When I work, I have to be at work at 5:00 am. It wasn't a big thing to get here at 6:30. Hopefully, I'll be one of the first ones in line so it would be available."

ONCE THE CLOCK STRUCK EIGHT, AND THE DOORS OPENED, CUSTOMERS BEGAN TO MAKE THEIR WAY INSIDE SEARCHING FOR THE BEST DEALS.

STORE WORKERS SAY PREPARATION FOR BLACK FRIDAY BEGAN WEEKS AGO.

THEY SAY IT BRINGS THEM A GREAT DEAL OF JOY SEEING CUSTOMERS COME IN AND GETTING THE ITEMS THEY WANT.

"Even though folks had to wake up early today, they say the deals make it worth it."

FOR ERIC GRAVES AND OLIVIA STEWART-COSTA, THIS IS THEIR FIRST TIME TAKING PART IN BLACK FRIDAY SHOPPING.

THEY WERE ON THE HUNT FOR A NEW TV.

THEY RECOMMEND THAT FOLKS GET OUT AND TRY BLACK FRIDAY SHOPPING JUST TO EXPERIENCE WHAT IT HAS TO OFFER.

"It's saving money in the long run. I would have to buy the tv in six or seven months once I graduate anyway. So, if I get to save \$250 now and get a better tv than I was originally planning on getting, then it's worth it to come out here and wake up early."

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. 6pm PKG
1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

12/2 Vietnam Vet Loses Everything -

ON NOVEMBER 15TH- THE HOME OF DON AND MELODY TRESKA WENT UP IN FLAMES.

THEY SAY- THE HARRIS COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE IS NOW CONDUCTING AN ARSON INVESTIGATION.

THEY SAY- THINGS LIKE FURNITURE CAN BE REPLACED- BUT THERE ARE SOME THINGS- THAT ARE SIMPLY IRREPLACEABLE.

"The part that hurts the most is losing the pictures of my mom that we can't get back."

MELODY SAYS SHE AND HER HUSBAND'S PARENTS HAVE BOTH PASSED AWAY.

DON- A VIETNAM VETERAN- HAS ALSO HAD TO OVERCOME OBSTACLES.

"He's been through two bouts of cancer. Three. He had a motorcycle accident in 2010 that crushed his spine. He spent 8 months in the hospital."

The Tresca's tell me the day after the fire the investigators allowed them to go inside of this house that they called home for 16 years. Behind you can see just a small pile of clothes that the Tresca's thought could be salvaged. It was later determined that they weren't going to be able to

use those as well. The Tresca's now have little to nothing, but despite this, they still have a positive outlook on things."

"So long as we have each other we can just about overcome anything."

THE FAMILY HAS MOVED.

THEY SAY THIS HOUSE- IS NOT THEIR HOME.

"We have one bed and a cot. We have a little table to eat off and we got cook ware. That's it."

BUT WHAT THEY DO HAVE IS LOVE.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY GARRETT- WRBL NEWS 3. **6pm PKG**

1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

12/20 New PC Shopping Center Coming -

THESE TREES ALONG HIGHWAY-FOUR-31 ARE THERE FOR NOW, BUT IN TIME WILL MAKE WAY FOR A NEW RETAIL CENTER.

PHENIX CITY MAYOR EDDIE LOWE SAYS BUSINESSES AND OTHER FOLKS WANT TO COME TO PHENIX CITY, AND THIS PROJECT IS A VALIDATION OF THAT.

"It's going to be an outstanding opportunity for those retailers and businesses that are there, but it's bringing in inclusion for people to come to Phenix City and will give us a chance to sell Phenix City even more with people coming through."

THE CENTER WILL INCLUDE A 40-THOUSAND SQUARE FOOT, BIG BOX GROCERY STORE.

ALONG WITH ABOUT A DOZEN RETAILERS AND A FEW FREE STANDING FACILITIES THAT CAN BE USED FOR A GAS STATION, FAST FOOD.

THE CITY ADDS THEY ARE WORKING WITH A HOTEL DEVELOPER TO ADD A HOTEL.

"The city says this project took more than two years to come to be, and says the key was getting a big box retailer."

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE FOR THE CITY, STEPHEN SMITH SAYS THIS COMPLEX COULD BRING AS MANY AS 300 JOBS TO THE AREA.

ADDING IT WILL HELP THE TAX BASE.

"Thousands of people will drive by this every day going to and from work. A lot of them are now shopping in Columbus or other areas because there is not any significant shopping in the area. You've had more than 4,000 homes built in that area in the last six years. Those people need a convenient place to shop, and we need to keep those sales dollars in Phenix City." **6pm PKG**

1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

12/26 GA Hospital Tax - GEORGIA OFFICIALS HOPE TO QUICKLY EXTEND AN ANNUAL TAX ON HOSPITALS THAT PAY FOR A LARGE SHARE OF THE STATE'S HEALTH CARE PROGRAM FOR LOW-INCOME RESIDENTS

THE QUARTERLY CHARGES ON HOSPITALS ARE SET TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 30TH.

THE STATE'S MEDICAID BUDGET COULD LOSE MORE THAN 880 MILLION DOLLARS IF LAWMAKERS DON'T RENEW THE PROGRAM.

GOVERNOR NATHAN DEAL SAYS AN EXTENSION IS A TOP PRIORITY FOR THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION STARTING IN JANUARY.

THE TAX YIELDED MORE THAN 280 MILLION DOLLARS THIS YEAR BASED ON HOSPITALS' NET PATIENT REVENUE **6pm Vo:20,11pm Vo:20**

ENVIRONMENTAL/ LAND USE/ SPRAWL:

10/7 Auburn Housing Fl Pilots -

"I was part of the first group that came out Wednesday night."

NICK BOWERS AND NEARLY FIVE DOZEN MORE INSTRUCTIONAL PILOTS FROM DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA ARE TAKING TO THE PLAINS -- AFTER FLYING THEIR OWN AIRPLANES OUT OF THE BRUNT OF HURRICANE MATTHEW.

AS FOR THE STUDENTS FROM THE SAME FLIGHT SCHOOL...?

"They've found their own way to the west coast of florida or they've been put in shelters. But our dorms have been evacuated and our faculty and staff. The school is obviously closed."

"Each one of us had our own plane going up."

AFTER SEEING THE SIGHTS OF HURRICANE MATTHEW AND HEARING FROM FRIENDS AT HOME, FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR ANNA ROBINSON SAYS THE CREW LEFT JUST IN TIME.

"We were really lucky to have gotten out before the worst of it hit."

"Auburn University is doing their part in helping some of the victims of Hurricane Matthew. They invited 60 of their closest friends from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach right here to Auburn University Regional Airport to stock 60 of their planes."

AIRPORT DIRECTOR BILL HUTTO SAYS AUBURN STEPPED UP TO HELP THE PILOTS BECAUSE OF THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS THEY HAVE WITH THE SCHOOL.

"It is a pleasure to help them out. Many of us have connections to East Central Florida and to Embry Riddle. We know if the tables were turned, they'd take us in and welcome us to Daytona Beach."

AND UNTIL THE STORM SETTLES, THE PILOTS WILL REMAIN ON THE PLAINS.

"I think the storm is finishing passing through now. So we'll get word and they'll make the call whether or not what day we'll come back -- either Sunday or Monday."

IT'S A WAITING GAME TILL THEN...

ON YOUR SIDE IN AUBURN, JOE RIPLEY, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm

Vo/Sot:45

10/14 Columbus Redevelopment -

Brownfields are places that are dangerous for the environment or look like they could be dangerous. They are typically places like these, which are former businesses including car washes or gas stations."

THE GEORGIA BROWNFIELD ASSOCIATION HOSTED A MEETING TO LET THE PUBLIC KNOW WHAT BROWNFIELDS ARE, WHERE THEY ARE IN COLUMBUS AND HOW TO REDEVELOP THEM.

JIM LIVINGSTON WITH THE RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION SAYS BEING ABLE TO REDEVELOP THE BROWNFIELDS PROPERTIES IS CRITICAL FOR COLUMBUS AND THE ENTIRE REGION.

"If we can get these properties back and being used in a way that is environmentally sound and economically productive, that's a win-win."

THE GEORGIA BROWNFIELD ASSOCIATION ALREADY HAS TWO CHAPTERS IN THE STATE.

THEY ARE WORKING TO BRING A THIRD CHAPTER TO COLUMBUS.

"The Georgia Brownfield Association says the idea that a property is contaminated can be just as problematic for redevelopment than the actual contamination. On your side in Columbus Brennan Reh WRBL News Three." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/1 Colonial Pipeline Reax - TRIPLE-A SAYS THE COLONIAL PIPELINE EXPLOSION WILL LIKELY CAUSE DRIVERS TO PAY MORE AT THE PUMP. THEY SAY DRIVERS IN THE SOUTHEAST AND MIDATLANTIC ARE EXPECTED TO BE SOME OF THE HARDEST HIT- BY THE HIGH GAS PRICES. THIS CREATES A FAMILIAR FEELING FOR SOME IN OUR AREA. ONE WOMAN SAYS GAS PRICES ARE ALREADY HIGH.

"Gas is expensive ya know...so I just don't drive too much."

AND FOLKS LOOKING TO SAVE SHOULD DO THAT... CUT BACK OR CARPOOL.

TRIPLE-A SAYS THE SOUTHEAST AND MID-ATLANTIC WAS JUST STARTING TO RECOVER FROM THE GAS PRICE HIKES THAT STEMMED FROM THE PIPEINE CLOSURE BACK IN SEPTEMBER.

THE EXPLOSION IS EXPECTED TO TEMPORARILY PUT A HALT ON THE DIP IN PRICES THAT WE'VE SEEN OVER THE LAST MONTH.

STILL... AT LEAST ONE DRIVER IS TAKING THE NEWS IN STRIDE.

"Getting back and forth transportation wise and everything else ya know we just have to do what we have to do until all this has been resolved."

EXPERTS SAY AN EXTENDED SHUTDOWN OF BOTH LINES WOULD HAVE A MAJOR IMPACT ON SUPPLIES AND PRICES FROM THE GULF COAST TO EAST COAST.

DURING THE LAST SHUTDOWN, THE SOUTHEAST FACED A TIGHT SUPPLY.

THE SOUTHEAST HAD TO RELY ON LONG-DISTANCE TRUCK DELIVERIES FROM AS FAR AS CHICAGO.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY GARRETT, W-R-B-L NEWS THREE. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/3 Auburn Water Restriction -

"Behind me is Chewacla Creek. It flows into Lake Ogletree which is the main source of water for the city. This creek is essentially dried up due to the drought conditions. Folks from the city say we are not in a dire situation, but they urge people to comply with mandatory restrictions."

PAUL AND JOANNE SCHRANTZ TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN THEIR YARD.

LIVING OFF SOUTH COLLEGE STREET, THEY LIKE TO KEEP IT NICE.

NOW UNDER MANDATORY WATER RESTRICTIONS, THEY PLAN TO TAILOR THEIR METHOD OF UPKEEP.

"We kind of saw it coming. We're in the worse drought of recent memory for most people. We understand the reason for the water restrictions, and we'll abide to them. As good citizens you want to abide to them."

THE LAST TIME THE CITY WENT INTO A PHASE TWO DROUGHT WATCH WAS IN THE SUMMER OF 20-11.

IN A PHASE TWO DROUGHT WATCH, IRRIGATION IS LIMITED TO THE WINDOW OF EIGHT P-M TO EIGHT A-M.

NO IRRIGATION IS ALLOWED ON SUNDAYS.

HOMES THAT END IN AN ODD NUMBER CAN IRRIGATE ON MONDAY, WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAY.

HOMES ENDING IN AN EVEN NUMBER CAN IRRIGATE ON TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY.

MATT DUNN OF THE WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT SAYS THE CITY HAS ONLY HAD ONE INCH OF RAIN SINCE MID-AUGUST.

THE LONGEST DRY PERIOD ON RECORD.

"We are not in a dire situation. We do have water available for our customers, and we are ok in the situation we are in. Particularly if we get the winter rains that we typically get that fill our reservoir back up going into the spring and summer months of next year. It is important that our customers heed the drought warning, and comply with what we're asking them to do."

IF A HOME EXCEEDS USING 12-THOUSAND GALLONS OF WATER A MONTH, THE OWNER WILL BE CHARGED A FEE ON THEIR WATER BILL.

FOR A TYPICAL CUSTOMER, THE EXCESS WATER USE FEE WOULD RISE FROM THREE-DOLLARS AND 68-CENTS TO FOUR-DOLLARS AND 60-CENTS FOR EVERY ONE-THOUSAND GALLONS OVER THE 12-THOUSAND GALLON THRESHOLD.

"The water resource management department plans to monitor this situation very carefully, and it is unknown when these mandatory restrictions will be lifted. On your side in Auburn, Alex Derencz, WRBL News Three." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/4 Spencer High Groundbreaking -

"I'm here at the groundbreaking for spencer high school. as you can see behind me dozens of people have attended the ceremony and THEY'RE all in awe of what's to come."

THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD HAS APPROVED 56 MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE NEW SPENCER HIGH SCHOOL. VALERIE FULLER, THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, SAYS TAX PAYERS VOTED FOR A NEW SPENCER. THE SCHOOL HOLDS A LOT OF HISTORY, BUT NEEDED SOME MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS.

"There were land concerns and issues with the land, you have numerous structure problems as well as the size of the classrooms."

THE CURRENT SCHOOL'S FOUNDATION IS CRACKING. IT WAS BUILT ON WHAT'S CALLED PLASTIC SOIL, MOSTLY CLAY WHICH EXPERTS SAY EXPANDS AND CONTRACTS. A NEW SCHOOL NOT ONLY SOLVES THE SAFETY ISSUE, BUT THE STAFF IS EXCITED ABOUT THE RESOURCES THAT WILL BE PUMPED INTO THE NEW FACILITY AND SOME EXTRA ADDED CONVENIENCES.

"We're going to have our games on the same campus, we're not going to have to do as much traveling as we have been doing. Everybody is really excited we're going to have new lockers. Everything is going to be brand new."

"Our students will have access to the most state of the art facility in the region."

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS INVESTED INTO OUR FUTURE LEADERS OF TOMORROW.

"The new spencer high school on fort benning road is set to be completed by 2018. On your side in Columbus, Ashley Lewis, W-r-b-l news 3." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/7 AL State Park Announcement -

SINCE 20-12, 15 MILLION DOLLARS HAS BEEN TAKEN OUT STATE PARK ACCOUNTS AND TRANSFERRED TO OTHER STATE PROGRAMS.

THAT'S ACCORDING TO ALABAMA STATE PARKS DIRECTOR GREG LEIN.

HE SAYS THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS IS CREATING MAINTENANCE BACKLOGS, DECREASING STAFF AND HAS EVEN RESULTED IN THE CLOSING OF FIVE STATE PARKS.

LEIN HOPES PEOPLE VOTE YES TO AMENDMENT TWO, WHICH HE SAYS WOULD PROTECT STATE PARK FUNDS FROM BEING RE-ALLOCATED.

"As that unfolds, the product we have in the state park system will continue to degrade to a point where the public no longer wants to use the parks. That will be the real crisis because we are almost a self-sufficient system and when the public no longer wants to use the parks, there'll be no money to revenue the parks, whatever's left over from these transfers."

"Another group hoping for a yes vote on Tuesday is the Auburn Opelika Tourism Bureau, and they say Chewacla State Park has a tremendous impact on this area."

A-O TOURISM PRESIDENT JOHN WILD SAYS FROM 20-12 TO 20-14, THERE WAS A 300 PERCENT INCREASE IN PEOPLE BUYING SEASON PASSES.

HE ADDS A YES VOTE WILL KEEP THE PARK MOVING FORWARD WITH SPECIAL EVENTS.

"People that have lived their whole lives and have never thought about coming to Chewacla or never really come out to enjoy the different programs or concerts during the fall. There's a lot going on out here at a reasonable price to enter the park or buy an annual pass. It's a great value for your money to spend time out here."

ON YOUR SIDE IN AUBURN, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/11 Native American Bones Found -

THIS IS THE FUTURE HOME SITE OF HISTORIC WESTVILLE.
AND NOW WE ARE LEARNING IT COULD ALSO BE A BURIAL SITE OF THE MUSCOGEE CREEK INDIANS.

THE BONE FRAGMENTS WERE FOUND DURING EXCAVATION OF THE SITE.
"We reached out to the Muscogee Creek nation before we started this project to let them know that we would do it. We are reaching out to them today to let them know that we did find a human burial."

"News 3 is hearing that hundreds of years ago the Muscogee Creek tribe would bury their relatives in huts and were also hearing that it's not uncommon to find clusters of bones on the property today. Today we asked the Columbus Museum to weigh in on whether or not the remains that were found was found on a burial ground."

"Without being there on the ground and being one of the archeologists doing the excavation it's hard to say for sure. I would say that just finding a few isolated remains does not indicate the presence of what we might consider a burial ground."

THE BONE FRAGMENTS FOUND HAVE BEEN REBURIED OUT OF RESPECT FOR THE CREEK INDIANS AND THEY ARE MEETING WITH THE TRIBE NEXT WEEK. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/14 Tri State Water Wars -

WATER: A RENEWABLE, BUT FINITE RESOURCE WE ALL NEED TO SURVIVE.

"There's so many times people are politically entrenched because there are such differences, but water has similarities. Everybody needs it."

DOCTOR FRED GORDON VIEWS WATER AS A BRIDGE OF COOPERATION.
BUT THAT BRIDGE IS QUICKLY BURNING THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN
GEORGIA, FLORIDA AND ALABAMA.

"Water issues continue to be important. Here on the banks of the Chattahoochee, it is our main water source in the state of Georgia: the Chattahoochee River and the basin that drains into it."

"They have nuclear power plants and oysters. In Atlanta and south Georgia with farms, we want to make sure we treat everybody fair and not punish anyone unduly."

"It's important to protect that. The federal government has a lot of say so because it is a federal waterway."

ALABAMA CONGRESSMAN MIKE ROGERS SAYS HE HAS SEEN THE EFFECTS OF
WHAT
HE BELIEVES TO BE GEORGIA'S OVER CONSUMPTION OF WATER ON ALABAMA
WATERWAYS.

AN ONGOING DROUGHT IS ALSO MAKING MATTERS DIFFICULT FOR WATER-BASED
BUSINESSES

LIKE DAN GILBERT'S WHITEWATER EXPRESS.

"When you're outdoors, you contend with what goes on around you."

GILBERT SERVES ON THE BOARD OF THE TRI-STATE RIVER BASINS AT THE CENTER
OF THE WATER WAR.

BUT DOCTOR GORDON BELIEVES IT'S UNLIKELY THAT THE BOARD OR THE COURTS
CAN REBUILD THE BRIDGES AND COMPROMISE.

"You would hope legislators would actually be the ones to be able to figure things out. After all, that's what they're there for: to solve problems."

ON YOUR SIDE, JOE RIPLEY, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30, 11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/14 Auburn University Water Saving - "We're fortunate that even though we're in a drought period, this time of year, the water demands have dropped off because the shorter days, temperatures are dropping. If this had been July, reducing irrigation by a third or even half would have dramatic effects on the campus plantings."

"Due to the dry conditions, trees on Auburn's campus and throughout the city have felt effects of it. The University says the fire damaged oak along Magnolia Avenue has seen little damage due to the drought, and they hope that continues."

THE UNIVERSITY IS UNDERGOING WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES.

SOME OF WHICH INCLUDE REDUCED IRRIGATION ACROSS CAMPUS.

TURF IRRIGATION WILL BE REDUCED BY 50 PERCENT OR ELIMINATED COMPLETELY.

FALL ANNUAL COLOR IRRIGATION WILL BE REDUCED BY 33 PERCENT OR HAND-WATERED.

DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE PROFESSOR GARY KEEVER SAYS DUE TO THE
CONDITIONS, EVERYONE BEARS PART OF THE BURDEN.

"We're fortunate that even though we're in a drought period, this time of year, the water demands have dropped off because the shorter days, temperatures are dropping. If this had been July, reducing irrigation by a third or even half would have dramatic effects on the campus plantings."

AS FOR THE FIRE DAMAGED TOOMER'S OAK, KEEVER SAYS THE DROUGHT HAS NOT
AFFECTED THE TREE.

THERE ARE IRRIGATION SYSTEMS ON THE TREE THAT ARE USED MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY.

"Because there is so little foliage on this tree behind me, the transpiration or the loss of water from its foliage is very minimal. Even if we reduced it by 50 percent, I don't think that it would impose any drought stress on the tree."

"Keever says if this tree does survive the winter months, it could take 5 to 10 years before the canopy of the tree looks the way it did prior to the fire. The university says they will continue to monitor this tree. On your side in Auburn, Alex Derencz, WRBL News Three." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/18 Level 2 Drought Restriction -

SOME AREAS ARE NOW FACING A LEVEL TWO DROUGHT RESPONSE BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF RAINFALL IN THE CHATTAHOOCHEE BASIN.
WHICH IS CONCERNING SOME TROUP COUNTY RESIDENTS.

"We need rain bad. Everything is dieing out."

THE LEVEL 2 RESPONSE HAS AFFECTED 52 GEORGIA COUNTIES.
PATRICK BOWIE, THE LAGRANGE DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES SAYS THERE ARE A FEW RULES AND REGULATIONS THAT YOU'LL NEED TO KNOW.

"In terms of outdoor watering of your lawn or your landscape, if you have an even numbered address then you are allowed to water on Wednesday and Saturday between 4 P-M and 10 A-M and if you have an odd address on Thursday and Sunday you have between 4 P-M and 10 A-M."

"Even this fountain behind me in the heart of downtown Lagrange has been temporarily shut off. To remind people to conserve their water."

"Most people would understand that that's why it's not running and a lot of people are praying for rain."

AND IF YOU HAVE A HOME GARDEN ..

"You are allowed to handwater plants so if you have a hose and you need to go out and hand water a plant you can do that."

THE DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES SAYS THE LAGRANGE COMMUNITY DOESN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT RUNNING OUT OF WATER.

"We pull out of West Point Lake, that's where our water source is located and we don't have any concerns about running out of water or anything like that. This is just preventative to let people know that what we do in LaGrange affects people down stream."

CONSERVING WATER, TO BE PREPARED FOR THE UNEXPECTED.
ON YOUR SIDE IN LAGRANGE, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/21 Drought Accountability -

"You know with the drought we've been having, it's taking a toll..."

KYLE ALBRIGHT USED TO WATER HIS LAWN FIVE DAYS A WEEK.

"But with the temperature change we've been cutting it back a little bit."

NOW THE COLUMBUS RESIDENT WATERS HIS LAWN THREE DAYS A WEEK.
MUSCOGEE COUNTY IS UNDER A LEVEL ONE DROUGHT RESPONSE,
WHICH RESTRICTS IRRIGATION BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 4 P-M AND 10 A-M.
ALBRIGHT SAYS HE TOOK THE EXTRA INITIATIVE TO CUT BACK
TO PREVENT POTENTIAL FIRES.

"I know they found one yesterday at an apartment complex and off Double Churches. So we want to do whatever we can to keep our community safe."

COLUMBUS WATER WORKS MONITORS WATER USAGE IN MUSCOGEE COUNTY.
"Simply be mindful to not let the water run. Now's an excellent time to fix leaks around the house.
VIC BURCHFIELD SAYS WATER WORKS WILL PLACE NOTICES AT HOMES
THAT DO NOT FOLLOW THE DROUGHT RESTRICTIONS.

"They respond quickly and generally there's not a need for additional responses we use for compliance."

COLUMBUS RESIDENTS COULD ALSO FACE POTENTIAL FINES FOR BREAKING THE RULES MORE THAN ONCE.

HAMILTON'S WATER SUPERINTENENT RICKY HOOD SAYS A LEVEL-TWO DROUGHT RESPONSE IN HARRIS COUNTY LIMITS WATERING TO TWICE A WEEK.

"We'll stop and talk with them about it, and ask that they abide by the level of the restrictions. We've also got our city police involved in monitoring."

BOTH HOOD AND ALBRIGHT SAY GETTING PAST THIS DROUGHT WILL TAKE SOME TIME.

IN THE MEANTIME, ALBRIGHT CONTINUES TO TELL HIS NEIGHBORS WHAT THEY CAN DO TO KEEP THEIR LAWNS HEALTHY.

"I just try and look after the community. At the same time, we want to make sure we don't do any harm to the grass and shrubs because we have a lot of money invested in them." **6pm PKG**

1:30, 11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/28 Whitewater Ave Reopen -

"I gotta go to the hospital a lot over there."

SAMUEL JOHNSON FREQUENTLY COMMUTES FROM SMITHS STATION TO COLUMBUS.

HIS DRIVE USUALLY TAKES HIM THROUGH THE BOTTLENECKED INTERSECTION OF 13TH AND BROAD STREETS.

BUT NOW, HE'S TAKING A NEW ROUTE, WHICH RUNS ON THE RECENTLY REOPENED WHITEWATER AVENUE.

"Nobody actually has known they're back there unless they see a sign. So they'll probably be getting some more business."

JOHNSON SAYS WHITEWATER AVENUE ANCHORS LIKE THE COURTYARD MARRIOTT AND TROY UNIVERSITY

A LOT OF TIMES...GO UNNOTICED.

PHENIX CITY MAYOR EDDIE LOWE EXPLAINS WHAT IT TOOK TO COMPLETE THE 16-MONTH PROJECT.

"It takes vision, it takes money, but most importantly, it takes people working together.

THE PROJECT SIGNALS PROGRESS IN PHENIX CITY, BUT NOT EVERYONE BELIEVES THAT PROGRESS IS POSITIVE.

"For people who don't want to get on board, and don't want to see these changes take place, maybe this isn't the place for them."

"Now that it's open, we hope to see an improvement on Summerville Road, as people go home from work. Today will be the first test of that."

PHENIX CITY POLICE CHIEF RAYMOND SMITH EXPECTS A SMOOTH TRANSITION AS THE AREA

WELCOMES MORE FOOT AND MOTOR TRAFFIC.

"The more people that come to an area, interestingly enough, they'll lower the crime rate."

BRAD WILLIAMS OWNS A CIGAR SHOP ACROSS THE STREET.

HE HOPES TRAFFIC FLOWS A BIT BETTER, EVEN AS MORE PLANNED CONSTRUCTION

IS ON THE HORIZON.

"I think Phenix City has always been a little bit behind Columbus in what they're trying to do. And I'd like to see Phenix City be a little more progressive and try to draw on some tourism and positive growth." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

12/9 Cold Weather Coming -

HUNDREDS OF HOMELESS PEOPLE ACROSS THE VALLEY ARE BRACING THEMSELVES FOR COLD WEATHER.

"There are a number of unsheltered homeless here in our community."

LOCAL SHELTERS AND RESOURCE CENTERS ARE PREPARING FOR LARGE CROWDS.

"When the temperatures reach below 30 for an extended period of time we open up 24 hours a day to allow people to come in as a warming station."

MITZI OFXORD FROM VALLEY RESCUE MISSION SAYS YOU CAN'T UNDERESTIMATE THE COLD WEATHER.

"It's dangerous and if you're out in it and your homeless and sleeping on the streets for a prolong period of time it can be dangerous and it can be life threatening."

"Sometimes people want to try it the first couple nights it gets cold, but after they realize how miserable it is and how dangerous it is."

"With temperatures near freezing it's important to wear layers to keep warm."

"To have a number of garments on, layers of clothing that you can add to and take off to regulate your body temperature to the outside extremes."

VALLEY RESCUE MISSION AND SAFEHOUSE ARE EACH EXPECTING DOZENS OF PEOPLE TO COME.

"We can accommodate as many people as we can find a place for, down the hall, in the common room. So we can accommodate twice that many if we needed to."

ORGANIZATIONS LEAVING THEIR DOORS OPEN, TO HELP HUNDREDS IN NEED.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

12/22 Auburn Oak Follow -

SINCE 1953, J AND M BOOKSTORE HAS HAD THE SAME VIEW OF TOOMER'S CORNER.

OWNER TREY JOHNSTON SAYS IT'S A PRIVILEGE TO SEE THE CORNER EACH DAY.

"Everyday is like being at Disney World. You just come to work and say, God, thank you for letting me work here across from Samford Park, the trees, the yards and the manicured look, the history and significance of what's across the street is really special."

IN THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS, THE CORNER HAS EXPERIENCED SOME TERRIBLE MOMENTS.

IN 20-10, THE TREES WERE POISONED BY HARVEY UPDYKE AND NEEDED TO BE REPLACED.

THIS PAST SEPTEMBER AFTER A WIN AGAINST L-S-U, 29 YEAR OLD JOCHEN WIEST SET SOME OF THE TOILET PAPER ON ONE TREE ON FIRE.

LEAVING THE TREE'S FUTURE IN QUESTION.

'Folks hope that other people will be even more courteous towards the corner going forward.'

AUBURN RESIDENT TED WILSON, SAYS FOLKS IN THE AREA HAVE BECOME EVEN MORE CONSCIOUS OF THE TREES IN RECENT YEARS.

"The trees are important to us, but the trees are trees. They are symbolic; there is no question about that. I think it brings the Auburn Family closer together when something like this happens to our trees."

"I think people who want to come to Downtown Auburn, Samford Park, enjoy the community just need to do it respectfully. You don't need to do things like that. You don't need to have stupidity involved in some of the decision makings after a few beers in Downtown Auburn."

ON YOUR SIDE IN AUBURN, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

EDUCATION:

10/5 Golden Apple Avery -

FOR THIS WEEK'S KINETIC GOLDEN APPLE AWARD..
NEWS 3'S CARLOS WILLIAMS HEADED OUT TO NEARBY STEWART COUNTY. THE RECIPIENT...STEWART COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL EIGHTH GRADE TEACHER - KAYLA AVERY.

MS. AVERY WAS NOMINATED BY STUDENT EMMANUEL RICHARDSON WHO TOLD US MS. AVERY IS VERY CARING AND IS THE BEST TEACHER HE HAS EVER HAD.

AVERY... WHO ATTENDED GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN AND ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY... WAS HUMBLLED TO RECEIVE THE HONOR. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/12 Golden Apple Corona -

ALSO OUT AT THE SMITHS STATION FRESHMAN CENTER -- IS WHERE WE FIND THIS WEEK'S KINETIC GOLDEN APPLE AWARD RECIPIENT.
NEWS 3'S CARLOS WILLIAMS RECOGNIZED 9TH GRADE HISTORY TEACHER LUKE CORONA.

CORONA WAS NOMINATED BY STUDENT KYLE FORD WHO TOLD US THAT BECAUSE OF MR. CORONA - HE NOW ENJOYS HISTORY. HE ALSO SAYS THE TEACHER TOOK TIME TO COMFORT HIM AFTER HE BROKE HIS

COLLARBONE AT FOOTBALL PRACTICE.

MR. CORONA HAD KIND WORDS FOR BOTH
FORD AND THE REST OF HIS STUDENTS. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/19 Golden Apple Edmunds -

THIS WEEK, NEWS 3'S
CARLOS WILLIAMS
WAS ON THE ROAD ONCE AGAIN
TO DELIVER THE KINETIC GOLDEN
APPLE AWARD.

THE RECIPIENT....
HARRIS COUNTY CARVER
MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER
HEATHER EDMUNDS.

EDMUNDS WAS NOMINATED BY STUDENT JACIE MITCHELL WHO TOLD US
THAT MS. EDMUNDS IS ALWAYS HELPFUL WHEN IT COMES TO THEIR ASSIGNMENTS.
AND SHE SAYS THE TEACHER'S PRE-SOPHMORE CLASS HAD
ONE OF THE BEST TEST SCORES IN RECENT MEMORY.

EDMUNDS - WHO'S BEEN TEACHING 2 YEARS -
WAS BOTH SURPRISED AND EXCITED
TO RECEIVE THE HONOR. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/26 Golden Apple Cross -

THIS WEEK'S KINETIC CREDIT UNION
GOLDEN APPLE AWARD WINNER -- WAS
NOMINATED BY *EIGHT DIFFERENT PEOPLE.

HE IS SOUTH GIRARD SCHOOL EIGHTH GRADE TEACHER
VICTOR CROSS.

CROSS WAS TOTALLY SURPRISED BY OUR VISIT.
HE RECEIVED NOMINATIONS FROM SEVERAL
STUDENTS -- INCLUDING NATHAN CARPENTER,
TYLER HAINES AND HUNTER BROADWATER --
JUST TO NAME A FEW.

THEY ALL CALLED THE ENGLISH TEACHER
THEIR FAVORITE AND SAY HE ALWAYS MAKES
HIS CLASS INTERESTING.

CROSS WAS THANKFUL TO RECEIVE THE HONOR. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/2 Golden Apple Moore -

TIME FOR THIS WEEK'S GOLDEN APPLE
AWARD WINNER -- WHO WAS NOMINATED
BY PARENT MIKESHA STRINGER...

SHE IS BEULAH ELEMENTARY SECOND GRADE TEACHER
JENNIFER MOORE - WHO ACCEPTED THE HONOR THIS MORNING
FROM NEWS 3'S CARLOS WILLIAMS.

THE 11-YEAR TEACHING VETERAN IS AN AUBURN UNIVERSITY
AND COLUMBUS STATE GRADUATE.

MS. STRINGER TOLD US THAT MS. MOORE MAKES SURE HER STUDENTS
GET THE EXTRA HELP THEY NEED - AND DOES AN EXCELLENT JOB
OF COMMUNICATING WITH PARENTS.

MOORE SAYS THE AWARD MADE HER DAY. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/9 Golden Apple McGuire -

NEWS 3'S CARLOS WILLIAMS HIT THE ROAD ONCE AGAIN TO
HAND OUT THIS WEEK'S KINETIC GOLDEN APPLE AWARD.

AND THE VERY WORTHY RECIPIENT.....CENTRAL OF TALBOTTON MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER TERESA MCGUIRE.

MCGUIRE WAS NOMINATED BY STUDENT JIQUAVIOUS BARNES... WHO TOLD US THAT MCGUIRE ALWAYS SHOWS EXCELLENCE AND PRIDE WHEN TEACHING HER 7TH AND 8TH GRADERS.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO NOMINATE A DERSERVING TEACHER - JUST GO TO WRBL.COM AND FILL OUT THE NOMINATION FORM. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/14 AL Test Scores -

REPRESENTATIVES WITH THE RUSSELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SAY- THIRD GRADERS APPEAR TO BE TAKING ONE OF THE HARDEST HITS.

THE COMBINED READING SCORE FOR THOSE ALABAMA STUDENTS- STANDS AT 26 PERCENT THIS YEAR.

THAT'S DOWN FOUR POINTS FROM LAST YEAR.

DEBBIE WEBSTER WORKS FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

SHE HAS A PLAN TO IMPROVE SCORES.

"We have four ARI funded coaches that we've sent back to the schools. By their guidance they are strictly working with third grade teachers, their practices.They're also spending about 80 percent of their time pulling their students who scored in need of support and also students who struggled on other assessments."

A-R-I STANDS FOR "ALABAMA READING INITIATIVE".

THAT'S JUST PART OF THE PLAN TO HELP STUDENTS SUCCEED.

"We're providing a lot of professional development to our teachers. We're even looking at purchasing some new intervention programs, we're pulling kids for school and offering tutoring or opportunities after school."

ALABAMA SCHOOLS ARE ALSO LOOKING AT CHANGING THE SCHOOLS GRADING SYSTEM.

SCHOOLS ARE CURRENTLY GRADED A THROUGH F.

STARTING IN DECEMBER THAT WILL CHANGE.

"Still sounds like we're gonna have measurements in student achievement in the district and school local indicator and in learning gains."

GAINS THAT INSTRUCTORS HOPE WILL COME QUICKLY.

ON YOUR SIDE- ASHLEY GARRETT- WRBL NEWS 3. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

11/16 VET Education Transition -

"We've been trained to be in a constant state of high-ops tempo."

NOW THAT SOLOMON SMITH'S STINT IN THE AIR FORCE IS OVER, HE'S USING TECH SCHOOL

TO TEACH KIDS AND TEENS.

"I just want to give them some background on what the future holds and let them know what they can do."

THE COLUMBUS TECH STUDENT SAYS THE TRANSITION FROM MILITARY TO CIVILIAN LIFE

INVOLVES A LIFESTYLE CHANGE.

"It can be difficult. It can be hard. At times, it is hard for a lot of us vets."

"I'm going to school so she can see me walk across the stage."

10-YEAR ARMY VET SHAMONICA CUFF IS TAKING COSMETOLOGY CLASSES AT COLUMBUS TECH.

IT'S PART OF A PROMISE SHE MADE WHEN SHE FIRST ENLISTED: TO PROVIDE FOR HER DAUGHTER.

"It's a big accomplishment. I want her to know it's a good feeling when you go out there and just chase your dreams."

CHERYL MYERS WITH COLUMBUS TECH SAYS THE MILITARY EXCELS AT TEACHING VETERANS SOFT SKILLS: ATTRACTIVE QUALITIES FOR EMPLOYERS.

"They have that experience, they have the passion to do the right thing and to show up and to go to work, the work ethic."

"Along with honing their soft skills in the classroom, veterans can take the tools they learn and sharpen them here in the veteran's lounge."

21-YEAR ARMY VET EDWIN COLLAZO--JIMENEZ PLANS TO USE HIS DEGREE TO START HIS OWN BUSINESS.

"I was able to learn and use all these different experiences I had in the military to appreciate what we have in our country now."

THAT INCLUDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE SUCCESSFUL...AFTER MAKING A SACRIFICE.

ON YOUR SIDE, JOE RIPLEY, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/16 Golden Apple Dolly Baker -

THIS WEEK, WE SURPRISED ANOTHER OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR WITH THE KINETIC CREDIT UNION GOLDEN APPLE AWARD.

NEWS 3'S CARLOS WILLIAMS PRESENTED THE HONOR TO DOLLY BAKER, A VETERAN EDUCATOR AND MEDIA SPECIALIST AT FOREST ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

BAKER HAS BEEN IN THE EDUCATION FIELD FOR 16 YEARS AND HOLDS A MASTERS DEGREE FROM TROY UNIVERSITY AND A MASTERS FROM C-S-U.

SHE TALKED TO US ABOUT MOVING DOWN FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL TO WORK WITH YOUNGER CHILDREN - AND THE JOY SHE HAS GOTTEN FROM MAKING THAT CAREER MOVE. 6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/30 Golden Apple Gardner -

THIS WEEK, NEWS 3'S CARLOS WILLIAMS SURPRISED ANOTHER OUTSTANDING TEACHER WITH THE PRESTIGIOUS KINETIC CREDIT UNION GOLDEN APPLE AWARD.

SHE IS SOUTH COLUMBUS ELEMENTARY KINDERGARTEN TEACHER ANGELA GARDNER.

THE 28-YEAR TEACHING VETERAN WAS DESCRIBED TO US AS A COMPASSIONATE TEACHER WHO MODELS THAT CHARACTERISTIC TO HER STUDENTS.

WE'RE TOLD GARDNER IS ALSO ONE OF THE MOST POSITIVE STAFF MEMBERS AT HER SCHOOL AND A GREAT TEACHER WHO BUILDS RELATIONSHIPS AND FRIENDSHIPS.

GARDNER SAYS SHE LOVES TEACHING AND ESPECIALLY WORKING WITH THE YOUNG STUDENTS. 6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45

12/5 AL Computer Science ED Week -

DOZENS OF STUDENTS GATHER INSIDE THE AUBURN EARLY EDUCATION CENTER FOR THE KICK OFF OF ALABAMA COMPUTER SCIENCE WEEK AND THE HOUR OF THE CODE.

THE GOAL OF THE PROGRAM IS TO GAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF TECHNOLOGY AND HOW IT CAN BENEFIT STUDENTS.

"We're always planning on what schools are going to be like next year, but we have to think what our schools are going to be like 10 years down the road and what the State of Alabama will look like 25 years down the road. This is part of that larger planning process so we're making sure that Alabama has the economy it should have."

ACCORDING TO THE STATE OF ALABAMA, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES EMPLOY MORE THAN 15-THOUSAND PEOPLE AND BRING IN MORE THAN ONE BILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY TO THE STATE.

SO IT'S CRUCIAL TO HAVE A JOB FORCE READY.

"Educators say teaching students about computer science leaves a large impact in numerous ways.

AUBURN CITY SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT KAREN DELANO SAYS THE WORK DONE IN THE CLASSROOM TODAY WILL LEAD TO THE JOBS OF TOMORROW.

"For our children to see that and our parents to see that, to know what their future options are for future jobs, I think that's where the impact of talking about technology is right now."

ON YOUR SIDE IN AUBURN, ALEX DERENCZ, W-R-B-L NEWS THREE. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

12/7 Golden Apple Boone -

WE TOOK THE SHORT DRIVE

THIS WEEK OVER TO PHENIX CITY'S RIDGECREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO HONOR OUR LATEST KINETIC CREDIT UNION GOLDEN APPLE AWARD WINNER.

SHE IS 16-YEAR TEACHING VETERAN KAREN BOONE WHO ACCEPTED THE AWARD FROM NEWS 3'S CARLOS WILLIAMS.

MS. BOONE, A KINDERGARTEN TEACHER, WAS NOMINATED BY PARENT CHARLES LOWMAN, WHO SAYS BOONE ROUTINELY GOES ABOVE AND BEYOND FOR HER STUDENTS.

BOONE SAYS HER GOAL IS TO MAKE SURE HER STUDENTS ENJOY THIS SPECIAL TIME IN THEIR LIVES. 6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45

12/14 Golden Apple Chapiewski -

YOU MIGHT SAY THAT THIS WEEK'S KINETIC CREDIT UNION GOLDEN APPLE AWARD RECIPIENT HAS AN EYE FOR FINE QUISINE.

HE IS CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL CULINARY ARTS PROGRAM DIRECTOR JOHN CHAPIEWSKI.. WHO ACCEPTED THE HONOR FROM NEWS 3'S CARLOS WILLIAMS.

THE CHEF INSTRUCTOR NOT ONLY DOES AN EXCELLENT JOB OF PREPARING HIS STUDENTS FOR THE WORLD OF CULINARY ARTS...

BUT HE'S ALSO ESTABLISHED AN ORGANIZATION AT THE SCHOOL CALLED HYMN.. WHICH STANDS FOR "HELPING YOUNG MEN NOW".

HE TALKED ABOUT WINNING THE GOLDEN APPLE.. AND THE IMPORTANCE

OF THE ORGANIZATION. 6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45

FAMILY VALUES:

10/5 VETS Helping Homeless VETS -

IT'S RIGHT IN YOUR FACE... AND YET YOU MAY NEVER KNOW IT'S THERE.
IT'S A CITY WITHIN A CITY FOR HOMELESS VETERANS.

HAI CLAY VOLUNTEERS... HELPING HOMELESS VETERANS.

"just because your job is over in the military doesn't mean it has ended. By coming back to the community and serving we want to let the next generation see that it's not over with."

LAKESHA STRINGER IS A VETERAN HELPING VETERANS.

"You have to be a veteran to tend to a veteran kind of thing. We understand each others jargon and our language because we have seen the same struggles."

MITZI OXFORD WORKS FOR VALLEY RESCUE MISSION.

HER ORGANIZATION IS EXPANDING TO MEET THE GROWING NEED OF HOMELESS VETS IN THE VALLEY.

"There's about 54 beds in each place, but there are only about 300 shelter beds in all of Muscogee County. When you do the math you see that some of those people are not going to have a place to sleep."

OXFORD BELIEVES VETS ARE COMING HERE BECAUSE OF FORT BENNING AND OUR STRONG MILITARY PRESENCE.

"They've probably spent some time at Fort Benning serving there, training there and they end up liking the area and choose to move back here."

MEANWHILE CLAY IS ENCOURAGING EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY TO JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST HOMELESSNESS.

"I know there's more of me out there and there's plenty of us who want to do the same thing that I'm doing right now."

HELPING THE HOMELESS... ONE VETERAN AT A TIME.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

10/10 N3N Greeting Cards Woman -

JUDY TALLEY LOVES
THIS PART OF HER HOUSE.

IT'S WHERE HER
CREATIVE GENIUS IS
ALLOWED TO EXPRESS

ITSELF.

JUDY MAKES GREETING
CARDS..

AND NOT JUST YOUR
RUN OF THE MILL KIND.

HERS ARE UNIQUELY
DESIGNED IN DETAIL
FOR A SPECIFIC PERSON.

"A lot of times it starts with
Sunday School, and I might hear
during the praise and prayer
request session someone who
I know or I have even just a slight
relationship with. I really don't
even have to know them. But
it touches me in some way, so
I write that down and when I get
home then I come up with what
I want to do."

JUDY STARTED
DEVELOPING HER ARTISTIC
ABILITY IN HIGH SCHOOL.

"I took art, four years of art in
high school. I was the only
girl in my mechanical drawing
class back then."

JUDY'S BIBLE REVEALS
HOW TALENTED SHE IS.

SHE USES COLORED
PENCILS TO DRAW ARTWORK
THAT CORRESPONDS WITH
CERTAIN PASSAGES OF
SCRIPTURE.

THIS PICTURE IS
DRAWN ON THE PAGE THAT
INCLUDES THE 31ST CHAPTER
OF PROVERBS..AND DESCRIBES
A VIRTUOUS WOMAN.

JUDY SAYS SHE COMES
BY ART HONESTLY.

"It started back with my grandmother
who painted in watercolor. My mom went
went to Julliard so she had a music
voice. My sisters, brother and I are
all artistic in some fashion. So I would
say it's hereditary."

INTRICATE DESIGN IS ONE
OF THE HALLMARKS OF MANY
OF JUDY'S CARDS.

HER WORK IS SO GOOD IT
HAS BEEN FEATURED IN SEVERAL
GREETING CARD PUBLICATIONS.

BUT JUDY ISN'T DOING THIS
FOR THE PUBLICITY.

SHE BELIEVES HER EFFORTS

ARE PART OF A HIGHER CALLING.
"During the creative process or while
I'm writing out the card, then I pray for
the person because this is my ministry."

DELIVERING UNEXPECTED
WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT
AND BLESSING IS A GOOD WAY
TO DESCRIBE WHAT JUDY DOES.

"It gives me the opportunity to brighten
someone's day, to let someone know
that I'm thinking about them, that I'm praying
for them." **6pm PKG 1:30, 11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/17 N3N Library Volunteers -
EVERY MONDAY
MORNING A TRIO OF
VOLUNTEERS CHECKS IN
TO THE MACON ROAD
LIBRARY TO OFFER
THEIR TECHNICAL
EXPERTISE.

CHARLES BATASTINI,
RALPH MITCHELL, AND
CHARLES HANCOCK
ARE ALL RETIRED FROM
BELL SOUTH AND ARE
ACCUSTOMED TO FIXING
ANYTHING ASSOCIATED
WITH WIRES.

THE MACHINES
THEY WORK ON EACH
MONDAY PLAY WHAT ARE
CALLED "TALKING BOOKS."

THEY ARE AN
INVALUABLE RESOURCE
FOR FOLKS WITH DISABILITIES
WHO NEED HELP READING.

"This is a great addition to
their life I think, being able to
get any books they want and
play them, and at no cost to
them."

REPAIRING THESE
MACHINES FOR THE LIBRARY
STARTED BACK IN 1990 WHEN
CHARLES WAS WORKING FOR
THE PHONE COMPANY.

"We'd work during our lunch hour
a lot of times and then we'd come
back after work a couple of nights
a week and work on the machines."

TODAY CHARLES AND
HIS TWO SIDEKICKS VOLUNTEER
ANYWHERE FROM 4 TO 8 HOURS
EACH MONDAY, DEPENDING ON
HOW MANY MACHINES COME IN.

"We repair all the machines now in Georgia because all the other shops have closed up."

THESE NEWER MACHINES ARE DIGITAL, WHICH MEANS THEY HAVE FEWER MOVING PARTS AND CAN HOLD A LOT MORE INFORMATION.

"It depends on the length of the book and the number of pages of course, but you can put sometimes 4 or 5 on one small cassette."

CHARLES SAYS SOMETHING HE LEARNED AS A YOUNG MAN MOTIVATES HIM EVEN TODAY TO KEEP COMING TO THE LIBRARY.

"I was connected to scouting for about 50 years and I had a mentor in scouting, Mr. William A. Romeo, who was connected with Troup 6 down on 13th Street, a little cabin down there. And I think he instilled in all of us that when you have an opportunity, you do give back."

PRISCILLA WILLIAMS IS THE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR FOR THE CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY LIBRARIES.

SHE SAYS THESE THREE GUYS ARE AMONG OVER 300 VOLUNTEERS WHO DONATE THEIR TIME TO THE LIBRARY.

"It's just amazing to see so many people that do things out of their free time...give of themselves without expecting anything in return." **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

10/19 HW: Using Inhalers -

10-YEAR-OLD AMANDA GRABEL'S ASTHMA HAD GOTTEN SO SEVERE THAT IT WAS LIFE-THREATENING.

DESPERATE FOR A SOLUTION, HER PARENTS TOOK HER TO SEVERAL DOCTORS WHO KEPT WRITING MORE AND MORE PRESCRIPTIONS.

"It was very frustrating and they just kept throwing more medicine and none of it, and none of it helped.

"She was afraid to go to sleep at night because she was afraid she was going to die."

AFTER SEEKING A SPECIALIST, THE GRABELS LEARNED AMANDA HAD THE RIGHT MEDICINE, BUT WAS TAKING IT INCORRECTLY.

"We see children who just don't know how to use it at all, and so they take breaths in a totally different way that doesn't help get it into the lungs, which is where the medicine needs to go."

IN FACT, DR. LANSEY SAYS MOST CHILDREN HE SEES USE INHALERS INCORRECTLY. HE SAYS THE BIGGEST MISTAKE IS NOT USING A SPACER. WITHOUT IT ABOUT 80 PERCENT OF THE MEDICINE SETTLES IN THE MOUTH AND NEVER GETS INTO THE LUNGS.

DR. LANSEY ALSO SAYS MANY CHILDREN DON'T REALIZE THAT EXHALING IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS INHALING.

"Take some normal breaths and then a big deep breath to fully exhale so that you then have empty lungs to take a nice big, deep breath to get all the medicine deep into the lungs."

OTHER COMMON MISTAKES INVOLVE HOW THE INHALER IS POSITIONED.

DR. LANSEY SAYS KIDS SHOULD STAND UP STRAIGHT WHEN USING INHALERS WITH THEIR HEAD IN A NEUTRAL POSITION -NOT TIPPED BACK.

AIM THE INHALER AT THE BACK OF THE THROAT AND CLOSE THE LIPS TIGHTLY AROUND THE MOUTHPIECE TO KEEP MEDICATION FROM ESCAPING.

AFTER LEARNING THE PROPER TECHNIQUE, AND PRACTICING IT, AMANDA PERFECTED HER INHALER USE, AND IS BACK TO BEING HERSELF

"I don't have to worry about everything, and I'm just...I feel like I don't have asthma anymore. I do, but it feels like I don't." **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

10/24 Living in Shacks For Rural Ministry -

"I've been sleeping in this little house we call the shack."

LISA PIERCE, DIRECTOR OF ALABAMA RURAL MINISTRY, HAS MADE THIS SHACK HER HOME SINCE LAST WEDNESDAY-- JUST BIG ENOUGH FOR A MATTRESS.

IT'S AN UNLIKELY SIGHT ON THE STREETS OF AUBURN.

BUT THAT'S THE POINT-- TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE STRUGGLES MANY ALABAMIANS FACE WHEN IT COMES TO HOUSING.

"It might not be as small as this, but the houses that they're living in certainly have a lot of repair needs, and because they are these very, very low incomes, they cannot afford to pay the \$3,500-\$5,000 it would take to repair a roof or the \$600 to repair the windows. So the need is actually very great, especially for our elderly families."

"In addition of raising awareness of poor housing conditions, Alabama Rural Ministry also says there's another type of housing crisis-- and that's the lack of affordable housing in the state."

ALABAMA FACES A SHORTAGE OF 90- THOUSAND AFFORDABLE HOMES-- MEANING RIGHT NOW A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE PAY 50- PERCENT OR MORE OF THEIR INCOME FOR RENTALS OR LEASES--- WHILE OTHER SUFFER WITH SUBSTANDARD CONDITIONS.

THAT'S WHY IMPORTANT FOR PIERCE TO UNDERSTAND THE SUFFERING OF THE PEOPLE SHE SERVES.

"When I wake up and I'm cold, I'm thinking about the number of families that are also cold. When it does rain and it leaks, I'm thinking about how many families, so it just helps us make that connection."

ALABAMA RURAL MINISTRY STARTED THIS FUNDRAISER WITH A GOAL OF RAISING 77- THOUSAND DOLLARS.

SO FAR, THEY'VE RAISED AROUND 62-THOUSAND OF IT. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

10/28 Safe Trick or Treating -

CASSIE TOLBERT, A MOTHER OF TWO, SAYS HER KIDS ARE ANXIOUSLY WAITING TO GO TRICK OR TREATING.

"My four year old gets so excited because she loves dressing up and she loves candy, so she gets really excited to go trick or treating door to door.">

THIS YEAR COLUMBUS POLICE ARE ENCOURAGING PARENTS TO TAKE THEIR KIDS TRICK OR TREATING WHEN THEY GET OFF FROM WORK.

THE SET HOURS ARE FROM 6 P-M TO 8:30.

"go out as a family and that's very important because we do not want kids trick or treating by themselves."

TOLBERT SAYS HER FAMILY ONLY FEELS COMFORTABLE TRICK OR TREATING IN WELL LIT NEIGHBORHOODS.

"We definitely stay with them and we keep them close. We walk them to the door and we definitely check the candy once we get home to make sure everything looks safe."

IF YOU ARE PARTICIPATING POLICE SAY IT'S IMPORTANT TO TURN ON YOUR PORCH LIGHTS. IF YOU AREN'T..JUST KEEP THEM OFF.

COLUMBUS POLICE OFFER SOME HELPFUL SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS AND CHAPERONS ACCOMPANYING THE CHILDREN.

"Make sure that their colors can be seen easily and lets say they have a costume that is dark colored, make sure to put some kind of reflective tape on the costume."

HAWK DISCOURAGES PARENTS FROM LETTING THEIR KIDS EAT UNSEALED FOODS FROM STRANGERS.

"If they do come across an apple they need to inspect and make sure there are no cuts in it or anything like that."

MEANWHILE TOLBERT IS READY FOR MONDAY'S HALLOWEEN FESTIVITIES.

"Be aware of your surroundings just to keep things safe, have fun and definitely have a happy halloween."

HAVE A SPOOKTACULAR HALLOWEEN.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30, 11pm
Vo/Sot:45

11/2 HW: HPV Changes -

GARDASIL 9 IS THE VACCINE. IT'S RECOMMENDED FOR 11- AND 12-YEAR-OLD GIRLS, AND FOR WOMEN 13 THROUGH 26 YEARS OLD WHO DID NOT GET ANY OR ALL OF THE DOSES WHEN THEY WERE YOUNGER. HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY THE VACCINES CAN ALSO BE GIVEN TO GIRLS BEGINNING AT AGE NINE. IT'S ALSO RECOMMENDED FOR BOYS IN THE SAME AGE GROUP AND UP TO 21 YEARS OF AGE FOR MEN WHO DID NOT GET VACCINATED WHEN THEY WERE YOUNGER. DOCTOR MARGARET SCHAUFLE, A GYNECOLOGIST WITH WEST GEORGIA PHYSICIANS GIVES US THE WHY.

"The Vaccine prevents cancer. Cervical cancer, the incidents have come down so much already in the last thirty years but there's still so many deaths from it and so much disease."

DR. SCHAUFLE SAYS 90 PERCENT OF WOMEN WILL HAVE THE HPV IN THEIR SYSTEM AT SOME POINT IN THEIR LIVES. IT'S THE MOST COMMON SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION. BUT DR. SCHAUFLE SAYS THE VIRUS CAUSES SO MUCH MORE.

"But oropharyngeal cancer, cancers at the base of the tongue, tonsils, I know people now who have that. It also causes anal cancer and penile cancer, and vaginal cancer."

THE HUMAN PAPPILOMAVIRUS ALSO CAUSES GENITAL WARTS. BUT SOME PARENTS CAN BE SOMEWHAT SQUEAMISH WHEN IT COMES TO THE THOUGHT OF THEIR CHILDREN AND SEX.

"With these young kids, there's something about, being a parent of a young kid you have trouble maybe accepting maybe we are vaccinating against a sexually transmitted infection. This is why the child needs it so they can develop antibodies to the hpv before they begin to have sex."

OTHER CONCERNS AMONG PARENTS, COST, IT IS COVERED BY MOST INSURANCE COMPANIES, POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS, AND AN OPPOSITION TO VACCINES AS A WHOLE. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

11/7 N3N Donnell Harvey -
CUTHBERT, GEORGIA..
POPULATION LESS THAN
FOUR THOUSAND.

ABOUT AN HOUR
SOUTH OF COLUMBUS..
IT'S HOME TO RANDOLPH
COUNTY ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL.

THAT'S WHERE DONNELL
HARVEY GOT HIS EARLY
EDUCATION.

"It seems like it was just
yesterday that I walked these
same hallways, played in this same
playground."

DONNELL RODE HIS
BASKETBALL SKILLS ALL
THE WAY TO THE N-B-A.

RECOGNIZE THE GUY
HE'S GUARDING?

YEP, THAT'S MICHAEL
JORDAN.

DONNELL SPENT 15 YEARS
IN THE PROS, PART OF
THAT TIME PLAYING OVERSEAS.

NOWADAYS YOU'LL
FIND HIM IN HIS ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL GYM SHOOTING HOOPS
WITH KIDS ENROLLED IN AN
AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM
THAT HE STARTED.

"I implemented my youth program
to really just maximize a young kid's
opportunity. I want to make sure
they'll be able to get a chance to
experience somewhat the same
thing I have, and at least have the
opportunity to move forward.">

DONNELL STARTED HIS
RECONSTRUCTING YOUTH
FOUNDATION 15 YEARS AGO.

OUT OF THAT GREW THIS
*FREE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM.

ANYWHERE FROM 150
TO 225 KIDS PARTICIPATE
EACH DAY MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR.

NO ONE IS HAPPIER ABOUT IT
THAN THE SCHOOL'S PRINCIPAL
WHO SAYS BUDGET CUTS HAD
WIPE OUT AFTER-SCHOOL
ACTIVITIES.

THEN DONNELL HARVEY
CAME ALONG.

"It has just been a huge opportunity
for the children because they now have
activities, organized activities that they
do after school. They get help with
homework. They get snacks. Then they
do organized sports activities that are
centered around an academic theme.
And then they are fed supper before
they leave us in the afternoon."

DONNELL MAY BE 6 FEET, 8 INCHES
TALL..BUT THAT DOESN'T STOP HIM
FROM KNEELING TO HELP TIE A SHOE
OF ONE OF THE KIDS IN HIS PROGRAM.

"With me, it's not about me anymore.

I feel like God done blessed me to be in a
position to be able to bless other people.

So it's really His work. It has nothing to do
with me. It's really His work." **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

11/11 Women Devoted to Voting -

ALTHOUGH ALL THE ELECTION DAY PARAPHERNALIA IS GONE FROM THIS POLLING
PRECINCT IN AUBURN, AN EXPERIENCE FROM HERE LIVES ON.

AN AMBULANCE PULLED UP TO THE LOCATION ELECTION DAY MORNING.

AND WOMAN ON A STRETCHER WAS TAKEN FROM AN AMBULANCE.

A WOMAN WHO SUFFERED A MEDICAL INCIDENT THE DAY BEFORE, BUT HAD NEVER
MISSED AN ELECTION IN HER LIFE, AND THAT STREAK WOULDN'T END TUESDAY.

LEE COUNTY SHERIFF JAY JONES WAS THERE.

"I was just singularly impressed with the dedication of this lady who was not going to let a medical
issue stand in her way of casting her ballot. I think that represents exactly what being a great
citizen of this great nation is all about."

"Another group touched by this story are those who defended the freedoms that we have in this
country such as voting."

EARL SUMNERS IS ONE WHO DEFENDED THOSE FREEDOMS.

HE SERVED IN THE NAVY DURING WORLD WAR TWO.

HE WAS SIMPLY AMAZED BY THIS ACCOUNT.

"I can't describe it to be honest with you. I just can't describe it. But, it's nice. I'll say that. It's touching, and it kind of makes the chill bumps run up and down your back to be honest with you."

SHERIFF JONES HOPES THIS STORY CAN SERVE AS A LESSON TO YOUNG FOLKS.

I hope that they look at her example and would take that to heart and realize what a privilege it is to exercise the right to vote in a country that is free to do so, and how important that is and to always make sure it stays that way."

ON YOUR SIDE IN LEE COUNTY, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. 6pm PKG
1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

11/21 Service Dog for Auburn HS student -

THE FLOOR OF PREMIER SPORTS ACADEMY MEANS JUST AS MUCH TO MACKENZIE MORGAN TODAY AS IT DID FIVE YEARS AGO.

IT WAS HERE WHERE SHE COMPETED ON THEIR SPECIAL NEEDS TEAM.

IT WAS ALSO HERE WHERE SHE BROKE OUT OF HER SHELL.

"Five years ago, I never thought I'd be here now. I always thought that I would stay close to home for the rest of my life and not venture out into the world, but now I can."

MACKENZIE WAS BORN WITH CEREBRAL PALSY, BUT DOES NOT LET IT GET TO HER.

THE SENSE OF INDEPENDENCE COMES FROM FAMILY AND FRIENDS, BUT ALSO HER NEW SERVICE DOG MADDY.

THE TWO MET A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO, AND IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.

SINCE THEN, MACKENZIE'S SMILE IS BRIGHTER THAN IT'S EVER BEEN.

JUST AS BRIGHT IS HER FUTURE.

"Here's a dog that doesn't see me for my disability, and just sees me as a friend. A friend is what I really need right now because high school is rough. I'm not going to lie. I've been struggling with breaking out of my shell, and that's something that's always been really hard for me. I think that Maddy will be a constant reminder that I will have a friend no matter what."

"There's a lot of things she wants to do, and I think that's going to help a lot, just having her best friend with her all the time."

A FRIEND WHO REMINDS HER THAT LIFE CAN CHANGE FOR THE BETTER.

ON YOUR SIDE IN AUBURN, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

11/22 Crowell Feeds 100 Families -

"It's a blessing to my family."

DEBORAH GORDON SAYS SHE'S THANKFUL TO GO TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY'S.

"We've been having some ups and downs. But thank God, He came through for me."

AND SHE HAS A LITTLE MORE TO BE THANKFUL FOR WITH THANKSGIVING RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER, THANKS TO HER LOCAL CHURCH...

"We need to think about people that don't have it as well as we might have it. People find themselves in a generous spirit during this time of the year."

PASTOR REGGIE WILLIAMS IS CONTINUING

SOUTH COLUMBUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S LONGSTANDING TRADITION OF GIVING AWAY FOOD TO THOSE IN NEED.

HE WANTS GENEROSITY TO BE CONTAGIOUS.

"No matter what you have, you can always give."

"South Columbus United Methodist Church is helping 100 families this Thanksgiving by stuffing 100 of these grocery bags with food. But the giving doesn't stop there. In fact, former Carver standout and now in the NFL, running back Isaiah Crowell stepped up to the plate to match their donation with 100 turkeys."

"Sometimes I thought he wasn't listening. But he was. So Isaiah has a very grateful heart and this is a very humbling experience."

CROWELL HASN'T ALWAYS HAD AN N-F-L CONTRACT TO PROVIDE FOR HIS FAMILY THOUGH...

"It takes me back to the struggle when I was right there, sitting in those people's places. I was sitting in their seats."

AND NOW, THE CROWELL FAMILY IS STANDING UP TO SERVE.

ISAIAH'S MOTHER SAYS SHE'S THANKFUL THAT HER SON IS ABLE TO GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH HE GREW UP.

"This is another chapter in the book. I hope I live to see it."

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, JOE RIPLEY, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

11/23 Salvation Army Feeding Homeless -

(NATS)

THANKSGIVING CAME A DAY EARLY FOR THE HOMELESS AND HUNGRY.

"This right here is food for the soul. Lord have mercy!"

THE SALVATION ARMY OPENED THEIR DOORS TO MORE THAN 100 PEOPLE AT THEIR ANNUAL THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION.

TIMOTHY DYSER IS HOMELESS.

HE ENJOYS COMING TO EVENTS LIKE THIS.

"To be around my friends, to eat with them and talk with them and see what's going on in their life."

BUT NOT EVERYONE WHO COMES IS HOMELESS.

JUSTIN JOSEPH, USED TO BE HOMELESS.

HE COMES TO CATCH UP WITH OLD FRIENDS.

"I was at a point where I didn't have no where to stay. It's good for people because some folks don't know where to go. So they can come here instead of being out in the streets and getting into trouble."

"It takes 2 days of cooking in order to serve 150 people at the Salvation Army."

CAPTAIN JOSH HINSON, WITH THE SALVATION ARMY SAYS THEY LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING THE COMMUNITY.

ESPECIALLY DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

"We get to hear a lot of thank you's, but we also get to hear peoples' stories and get to know people better and that just makes you feel good."

VOLUNTEERS PLAY A BIG PART IN MAKING EVENTS LIKE THIS POSSIBLE.

"If you give out more than you receive you'll never be broke a day in your life. Everything you touch turns into gold."

JOSEPH IS GRATEFUL THAT HE LIVES IN SUCH A LOVING COMMUNITY.

"Being a volunteer you don't get paid for it because it's something you're doing things for people that you don't even know and they could be at home preparing for tomorrow, but there here serving other people in the community."

SERVING THE COMMUNITY IN THE SEASON OF GIVING.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS , W-R-B-L NEWS 3. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm**
Vo/Sot:45

11/24 United Methodist Thanksgiving -

ON THIS DAY, YOU WON'T FIND MEMBERS OF THE GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT HOME WATCHING A THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE.

YOU'LL FIND THEM AT THE SAFEHOUSE SERVING UP FOOD FOR THOSE IN NEED.

THE CHURCH HAS BEEN SERVING LUNCH AT THE SAFEHOUSE SINCE FEBRUARY.

A COUPLE WEEKS AGO, THEY LEARNED NOBODY WAS THERE TO SERVE ON THANKSGIVING.

"It's always important for those of us that have been blessed with material things to come and share that with other people. We encourage other churches to do the same thing and people throughout the community."

MORE THAN 20 VOLUNTEERS FROM THE CHURCH PREPARED FOOD AND WENT TO THE SAFEHOUSE TO SERVE.

ALL WHO CAME, DID NOT LEAVE HUNGRY.

FOLKS WERE NOURISHED PHYSICALLY AND SPIRITUALLY.

"Praise god, praise god."

"Those who volunteered say this experience was something they would never forget."

"It's a very humbling experience. I came originally thinking I was going to be a blessing to these people, but the blessing has been for me. They are so gracious and loving and just so appreciative of everything."

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. **6pm PKG**
1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

12/5 Foster Care Forum -

DURING THE FORUM THERE WAS GOOD NEWS TO SHARE...

THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN NEED OF A FOSTER HOME HAS GONE DOWN...
FROM 500 IN 20-15 TO 424 IN 20-16.

BUT THE BATTLE IS FAR FROM OVER.

AND THERE'S HOPE THAT CHURCHES WILL HELP ANSWER THE CALL.

"We are all pulling together to solve this together and I think that the churches can do this with 450 churches again one child for each church. We can solve this tomorrow."

THERE ARE MORE THAN 400 CHURCHES IN MUSCOGEE COUNTY.

THE PLAN WOULD CALL FOR EACH CHURCH TO RAISE UP ONE FOSTER FAMILY.

Tonight judges and local organizations are calling on the community to help the many foster children in need. They're also saying, it takes a village to raise a child.

ONE FOSTER CARE PARENT- MITCH MCGINNIS SAYS- IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY RAISING A FOSTER CHILD... BUT THE SACRIFICE IS WORTH IT.

"But it's worth it investing in the life of a child who needs our help, they need the help of the community, they need the help of anyone who will come along and love them

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE GIL MCBRIDE EXPLAINS HOW THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES- HAS BEEN ABLE TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS.

HE SAID- THE GROUP LISTENED TO SUGGESTIONS.

the Department and the courts should more closely at family resources for placement and we heard that...loud and clear

RIGHT NOW- ONLY TWO CHURCHES IN COLUMBUS ARE WORKING WITH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

THE HOPE IS NOW LEFT FOR OTHER CHURCHES TO ANSWER THE CALL. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

12/12 Pets and Holidays -

DOCTOR STEVE GRIFFIN HAS BEEN IN PRACTICE SINCE 19-98.

HE SAYS PETS ARE VERY HABITUAL, AND AT THE HOLIDAYS THERE'S MORE GOING ON... AND ROUTINES ARE BROKEN.

"We're busy with tasks in preparing for the holidays, it may be children's activities or visiting with family, it's easy for the pets to often get relegated in the chain of priority to a much lower priority but it's really important for them to maintain the same routine they do other times of the year."

DOCTOR GRIFFIN SAYS PEOPLE SHOULD NOT DISRUPT THEIR HOLIDAY PLANS BECAUSE OF THEIR PETS, BUT SHOULD WATCH THEM.

DOCTOR GRIFFIN SAYS DO NOT GIVE TABLE FOODS SUCH AS MEATS TO ANIMALS.
ALL ELECTRICAL CORDS SHOULD BE TUCKED AWAY.
MAKE SURE THAT CHRISTMAS TREES ARE WELL ANCHORED AND THAT ANIMALS DO NOT DRINK THE TREE WATER.
KEEP ANIMALS AWAY FROM ANTIFREEZE AS IT CAN CAUSE KIDNEY FAILURE IF NOT CAUGHT EARLY.
AND DO NOT LEAVE ANIMALS OUTSIDE, WITHOUT SHELTER, IN FREEZING TEMPERATURES.

"Lee County Sheriff Jay Jones says in the State of Alabama, there are various laws relating to animal cruelty on the books, and animal cruelty is something they take very seriously."

"The laws are tailored specifically toward any type of mistreatment of an animal, and we have been very active in investigations in the past and if the facts support a mistreatment or abuse of an animal, then certainly a person can expect to be held accountable for it."

ONE THING TO BE SURE OF...

YOU WANT TO BE ON THE NICE LIST.

ON YOUR SIDE IN LEE COUNTY, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS THREE. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

12/15 Habitat Build on Faith -

"God bless this home that it may be a place of peace and security."

COLUMBUS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY ALONG WITH LOCAL CHURCHES PRESENTED THE ERSKINE FAMILY WITH THE GIFT OF A LIFETIME.

"The dedication of our building on faith house and we have four churches involved and brookstone school and they built this house."

PIERCE CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, MIDLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH AND FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH JOINED FORCES.

BERMETRIA ERSKINE WAS IN SHOCK WHEN SHE SAW HER NEW HOME.

"Very overwhelmed with happiness and joy and we feel very blessed."

ERSKINE GAVE W-R-B-L A TOUR OF HER HOME.

SHE SAYS IT'S THE SMALL DETAILS THAT MAKE HER THE HAPPIEST...

"This may be weird and small, but I love the dishwasher , the light fixtures, the mirrors in the bathroom."

LOUISE HURLESS, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR COLUMBUS AREA HABITAT SAYS THEY WERE ABOUT 15 APPLICANTS FOR THIS HOME.

THEY DO THEIR BEST TO MATCH EACH FAMILY TO A PARTICULAR HOME.

"It has a big back yard and we knew they had four young girls and that they would probably need some room to play outside."

HABITAT MEMBERS SAY THE BEST FEELING IN LIFE IS HELPING THOSE IN NEED.

"When you can help that many people it's wonderful and they can start a new life here in a new neighborhood in a new house."

THE VOLUNTEERS AND COORDINATORS HAVE A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR THE FAMILY.

"We wish you a great new life in your new home. make the best of it and happy holidays!"

A NEW HOME, SOON TO BE FILLED WITH LOVE AND CHEER.

ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm

Vo/Sot:45

12/19 N3N 25th Fantasy in Lights -

IF YOU WANT TO SEE
EIGHT MILLION LIGHTS THIS TIME
OF YEAR..

YOU LOOK UP IN THE SKY
ON A CLEAR NIGHT..

OR..YOU CAN HEAD TO CALLAWAY
GARDENS FOR FANTASY IN LIGHTS.

THE UNIQUE CHRISTMAS LIGHT
DISPLAY WAS BORN OUT OF AN
IDEA FROM CALLAWAY GARDENS
CO-FOUNDER, VIRGINIA CALLAWAY.

HER FONDNESS FOR THE LIGHTS
AT HER CHILDHOOD HOME IN
PELHAM, GEORGIA WAS PASSED
ALONG TO CALLAWAY GARDENS
PRESIDENT SCOTT ANDERSON BACK
IN 1992.

"He actually brought in a team who
created Disney's electric light parade
and they created Fantasy in Lights."

IT FEATURED JUST FIVE SCENES
WHEN IT OPENED. NOW IT HAS
FIFTEEN.

AND IT WAS AMONG THE FIRST,
IF NOT THE FIRST, EXTRAVAGANT
CHRISTMAS LIGHT SHOW IN THE
SOUTHEAST.

AND IT REALLY
CAUGHT ON!

The third year they had 345,000 people
come. Now that's more than twice what
we have today because so many people
have emulated us.">

BUT CALLAWAY INSISTS THERE
ARE SOME ASPECTS TO FANTASY
IN LIGHTS THAT ARE TRULY UNIQUE.
"There's not a show that is something
you ride through or drive through, where
the entire thing is dedicated to Christmas
or nature, and there's not a lot of
commercialism, and that has dedicated
speakers in the woods for the music
verses a radio station, that you have the
option of going through in a trolley."

TO COMMEMORATE THE
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF FANTASY
IN LIGHTS, THEY'VE ADDED A
NEW SCENE CALLED SNOW DAY.

"That's what Snow Day is all about..
that excitement of no school, you're going
outside and play, and it doesn't matter
how old you are."

FANTASY IN LIGHTS HAS BEEN
RECOGNIZED BY THE READERS OF
USA TODAY AS ONE OF THE TOP FIVE
BEST PUBLIC LIGHT DISPLAYS IN THE
COUNTRY.

TO SAY IT'S HUGE AT CALLAWAY
IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT.
"Fantasy in Lights for both Callaway Gardens
and Pine Mountain has become THE year.
It is the biggest thing we do."
"It means and is so much more than
people ever expected." **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

12/21 Holidays Blues -

BEA HALEDJIAN LOST HER SISTER CAROL IN AUGUST.
THIS WILL BE THE FIRST CHRISTMAS FOR BEA SINCE HER SISTER'S SUDDEN DEATH.

"you always got some kind of nice surprise , she made beautiful placemats and quilts, miniature
art, pictures things like that so there was always something to look forward to on a birthday or at
Christmas time."

BEA'S HUSBAND, EARL IS THE DIRECTOR OF CLERGY AND CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT THE PASTORAL INSTITUTE. HE SAYS IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU LOVE HAS SUFFERED A RECENT LOSS, IT'S IMPORTANT TO ACCEPT THIS WON'T BE A NORMAL HOLIDAY.

"let them live the holidays the way they need to live the holidays.
BUT MAKE SURE THEY DON'T ISOLATE THEMSELVES.

"don't place them in the position of saying if you need me just give me a call, reach out to them, take the initiative to call, take them out to lunch, buy them a cup of coffee, remind them that they are still a part of your circle of important people, they matter, they count."

WHAT WAS MEANINGFUL FOR BEA WAS TO COMPLETE HER CHRISTMAS LETTER, WHICH SHE DID IN TRIBUTE TO HER SISTER.
SUFFERING A LOSS IS NOT THE ONLY CONTRIBUTING FACTOR TO THE HOLIDAY BLUES...

NICHOLS SAYS A LOT OF IT COMES FROM THE ANXIETY TO FIND THAT PERFECT GIFT, SCHEDULING, AND THE DEMAND TO BE ABLE TO DO EVERYTHING.

"It doesn't matter how demanding it is you're supposed to make it all work so it wears people down, it can erode their sense of self, their sense of self esteem, the feeling i'm not capable, i'm not competent."

AS FOR BEA, SHE'S LEARNING WHAT WORKS FOR HER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

"i've found that throwing myself into some volunteer work you know and focusing on the needs of others really helped me." **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

12/23 LaGrange Homeless Feast -

OUTSIDE 7 KINGDOMS TATTOO STUDIO IN LAGRANGE- THERE WERE SEVERAL VOLUNTEERS PREPARING FOOD.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON- THEY GRILLED BURGERS, FIXED BARBECUE SANDWICHES, BUTTERFINGER CAKE AND MORE.

MAURICE HOUSTON LIVES IN LAGRANGE.

HE WORKS AT DIVERSE POWER- BUT LIKES TO MAKE BARBECUE ON THE SIDE.

HE EXPLAINS WHY HE PREPARES TO WORK THROUGH THE NIGHT- TO FEED THOSE WHO COULD REALLY USE SOME HELP.

it's a blessing to me because i'm able to sit down every evening at the dinner table and eat. You sitting there and you're enjoying your meal think in the back of your head that there's somebody that's not able to eat right here in your own neighborhood

INSIDE THE TATTOO SHOP- THERE ARE DIFFERENT OPERATIONS.

IN ADDITION TO TATTOOING- WORKERS AND VOLUNTEERS ARE ALSO COLLECTING MANY DONATIONS FOR THOSE IN NEED.

THE OWNER OF THE SHOP SAYS- EFFORTS LIKE THESE HIT CLOSE TO HOME.

being in a predicament where you was just like that. Years ago me and my family didn't have anything. We lived inside of our business because we lost our home.

((I caught up with one Lagrange resident who says he calls that bridge right behind me his home because he doesn't have a home to call his own. He's been under the bridge for more than a decade and today he shares what a day in the life, is like for him))

I walk around..pick up what I can here and there to survive

THAT'S WILLIE DOUGLAS SENIOR.

HE DOESN'T HAVE MUCH- BUT HE STILL REMAINS OPTIMISTIC.

no matter where you live it's how you live. I live under a bridge right? But i'm totally free. I like being free.

IN LAGRANGE, ASHLEY GARRETT, WRBL NEWS 3. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

12/28 HW: Lynch Syndrome -

NANCY ROSEN HAS A FAMILY HISTORY OF COLON CANCER, SO IT WASN'T A SURPRISE WHEN SHE WAS DIAGNOSED AT AGE FIFTY-FOUR. WHAT SHE DIDN'T KNOW WAS THAT HER HIGH RISK WAS CAUSED BY LYNCH SYNDROME, A CONDITION THAT PREVENTS HER BODY FROM PROPERLY REPAIRING DAMAGED DNA.

"Knowing I have Lynch syndrome allows me to act proactively to hopefully prevent getting another recurrence of cancer."

NANCY BECAME AWARE OF HER LYNCH SYNDROME THANKS TO A NOVEL SCREENING PROGRAM.

RESEARCHERS AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER, JAMES CANCER HOSPITAL AND SOLOVE RESEARCH INSTITUTE LED AN EFFORT TO CONDUCT TUMOR SCREENINGS ON MORE THAN THREE THOUSAND PATIENTS DIAGNOSED WITH COLON CANCER.

"From that, we have actually offered genetic testing to about 370 at-risk relatives, and another 120 have tested positive, so you can see where it balloons once you get to the family members."

HEATHER HAMPEL LEADS THE PROJECT. IN A NEWLY PUBLISHED REPORT, SHE LOOKED AT A SUBSET OF PATIENTS IN OHIO DIAGNOSED SINCE 2013 AND UNDER THE AGE OF 50. IN FINDINGS LARGER THAN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT, HER TEAM FOUND 1 IN 6 OF THOSE PATIENTS HAVE GENETIC FLAWS THAT RAISE THE RISK OF CANCER IN OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS, INCLUDING NANCY'S SON MICHAEL, WHO PLANS TO USE THAT KNOWLEDGE TO STAY HEALTHY.

"I'm grateful that I know now. Before I would have never gotten a colonoscopy. I would have no idea I'm at greater risk."

"It's critically important to find out young so that you can start those screenings at the right age and do them at the right frequency and we can prevent these individuals from getting cancer in the first place." **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

12/30 Firework Safety -

BRINGING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS IS A TRADITION FOR JENNIFER WHIDDEN.

SHE'S COME TO THE FIREWORKS OUTLET TO PREPARE FOR THE BIG DAY.

"We come here every year to get fireworks to celebrate new years. It's a family tradition to get together and barbecue and the kids look forward to it."

WANDA LAMB KNOWN AS THE BANG BANG LADY, SAYS AROUND THE HOLIDAYS THEY SEE AN INCREASE IN SALES BECAUSE THOUSANDS ARE INTRIGUED BY FIREWORKS.

"It's entertainment, it's fun, the colors are amazing and it's just exciting."

WHEN SHOOTING OFF YOUR FIREWORKS THERE ARE A FEW THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW.

"Make sure you have a bucket of water next to you just in case you need to put something out."

"This year Goliath is one of the most popular fireworks in the store so if you plan on shooting off this firework make sure to put the tubes in a concrete block to prevent it from tipping over."

"On every firework it has a caution or a warning. Make sure that you read that warning and read the directions of how it says to do them and do it exactly how it tells you to do them."

"If you don't like loud noises make sure to stay away from fireworks that are 500 grams because they're extremely loud."

WHIDDEN PICKED UP AN ARRAY OF FIREWORKS AND SHE DOESN'T MIND THE LOUD NOISE.

"My favorite ones are the 500 grams because they go 300 feet in the air."

FOLLOW THESE FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS AND HAVE A SAFE HOLIDAY WEEKEND.
6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45