

WRBL

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

Third Quarter 2016 (July 1 – September 30)

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

10/10/16

Date Placed in Public Inspection

GOVERNMENT: LOCAL/REGIONAL :JULY 1ST – SEPTEMBER 30TH

7/4 Brett Smith District 79 -

BRETT SMITH HAS NEVER RUN FOR POLITICAL OFFICE BEFORE.

HE'S PRACTICED LAW FOR MORE THAN FOUR YEARS.

FOR HIM, THE DESIRE TO RUN FOR THE DISTRICT 79 SEAT STEMS FROM ONE THING.

"Opportunity. Not opportunity for me. Not opportunity for my family, but I saw this as an opportunity to combat some of those problems that are going on in Montgomery. To be honest, it's a mess there."

SMITH SAYS THAT MESS IS ALL BASED ON THE POLITICS OF THE PAST, AND DOES NOT WANT TO RE-HASH THE PAST.

HE ADDS THAT WITH THE BIRTH OF THEIR FIRST CHILD A YEAR AGO, HE AND HIS WIFE DECIDED THEY CANNOT SIT ON THE SIDELINES DUE TO THEIR INVESTMENT IN THE COMMUNITY.

"Smith says being a lawyer has opened doors to hear the interests and concerns of the community, but cites being a business owner and father as to what will help connect with those in the district."

"This isn't about special interests. This isn't about paying back the people who pay for your campaigns. This isn't about best buddies and friends and backroom deals. This is about honesty, integrity and trust. This is about opening doors and allowing opportunity; not opportunity for those who support your campaign, but opportunity for every single person in our district."

ON YOUR SIDE IN AUBURN, ALEX DERENCZ, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

7/5 Criminal Justice Efforts -

"I messed up. And I have to pay my consequences."

WILLIAM PENN OWNS UP
TO THE MISTAKE THAT LANDED HIM IN JAIL.
AND HE REALIZES THAT MISTAKE
IS NOT ONLY COSTING HIM...

Right now I'm losing money and bills getting behind."

...BUT HIS FAMILY AS WELL.

PENN TAKES CARE OF HIS MOTHER AND GRANDCHILD AT HOME.

"Without my help, she's struggling, had no one to drive for her. She has to pay people to take her places."

HELP COULD BE ON THE WAY FOR PENN AND HUNDREDS OF OTHERS IN THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY JAIL.

WITH JAIL AND PRISON POPULATIONS
SEEMINGLY BURSTING AT THE SEAMS,
A PATHWAY COULD CLEAR... MAKING IT EASIER FOR NON-VIOLENT
OFFENDERS TO MAKE THE MOST OF THEIR

TIME BEHIND BARS.

"Not having to house as many people inside the county jail, giving them some alternative beside incarceration. And when you're talking about less inmate population, you're talking about less taxpayer's dollars being spent on incarcerated people."

"There are more than 1,000 inmates at the Muscogee County Jail, and for many of them, the door of opportunity is still open to learn, grow and set themselves up for a future outside a jail cell."

"I think some of the biggest hesitations that employers make is they feel that there's going to be some type of risk."

WALEISAH WILSON WORKS WITH INMATES AS THEY TRANSITION FROM THE CELL BACK TO THE STREETS.

SHE SAYS WITH NEW JAIL PROGRAMS ON THE WAY, EMPLOYERS SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE AND EXTEND A HELPING HAND.

"Stay focused and work on yourself while you're in here because you have a second chance when you get out."

AND THAT HELPING HAND COULD INSPIRE AND MOTIVATE WILLIAM PENN AND OTHERS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AFTER SERVING THEIR TIME.

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

7/6 Jay Conner District 79 -

FOR JAY CONNER, THIS IS HIS FIRST RUN AT A STATE OFFICE.

HE SAYS HE IS RUNNING BECAUSE HE THINKS THE AREA CAN DO BETTER FROM A REPRESENTATION STANDPOINT.

"Auburn is a really diverse population. I think we've got different interests, different political interests, different cultural interests, just a different group of people that maybe haven't been represented adequately over the years."

CONNER SAYS HE HAS THE ABILITY TO WORK WITH EVERYONE IN A DISTRICT WITH A DYNAMIC ECONOMY, FULLY SUPPORTING AUBURN UNIVERSITY, AND GOOD LOCAL SCHOOLS.

CONNER WANTS TO TACKLE THE STATE'S MEDICAID PROBLEMS AND CONTINUE THE DISCUSSION OF A STATE LOTTERY.

HE SAYS HE NOT ONLY WANTS TO REPRESENT THE *DISTRICT, HE WANTS TO MAKE THE *STATE BETTER.

"If we're not working together as a team to develop our state, we're going to feel the effects of that. We're going to suffer because some other parts of the state are not as dynamic in getting proper education dollars to their locales, and not supporting their education systems."

"When asked about possibly filling Mike Hubbard's seat, Conner says he's not worried about the past. He says he is focused on the future."

"I've moved past it myself, and I think the people of our district want to move past it. It was terrible what happened, and I don't think it's particularly useful to dwell on. I think we're starting with a clean slate."

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

7/8 Police BLM Reax -

COMMUNITY ACTIVIST, ANTONIO CARTER, FROM THE NATIONAL JOSHUA GENERATION, SAYS THE KILLINGS HAVE TO STOP.

"When you see Freddie Grey and his spine is separated from his neck. Michael Brown's body left out in the streets of Missouri for eight to nine hours."

TONZA THOMAS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE COLUMBUS NAACP, ATTRIBUTES SOCIAL MEDIA AND THE INTERNET WITH EXPOSING THE DEADLY INCIDENTS FOR THE WORLD TO SEE.

"What I like about the media is no matter what city or state you're in, when a black man is killed by a cop the media will put it up there because it is something that's going on today."

MAJOR GIL SLOUCHICK OF THE COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT DOESN'T BELIEVE THAT MOST OFFICERS DISCRIMINATE.
"Police officers are color blind when it comes to enforcing the law. The majority of the time people that we interact with are people that we get calls on."

WHAT CAN YOU DO IF PULLED OVER DURING A ROUTINE TRAFFIC STOP?
SLOUCHICK SAYS DON'T CHALLENGE OFFICERS.

"You give them your license and registration and you don't go reaching in consoles, pockets or pulling out guns. When the officer sees a gun in the car he's naturally going to be cautious."

AND IF YOU CHOOSE TO PROTEST.

"Do what you're supposed to do, protesting doesn't mean rioting. Rioting is violating the law."

MEANWHILE, CARTER BELIEVES THAT BLACK AND BLUE LIVES MATTER.

"It's a universal law it applies to everybody black, white, red ,brown and yellow. Justice is a universal law." 6pm PKg 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

7/8 Mike Hubbard Sentencing -

"News 3 has learned that Mike Hubbard's defense team has filed a motion to look into potential juror misconduct in the trial. His team also plans to appeal the decision because they believe in the former speaker's innocence. In court, there were a few people who agreed... and some who didn't">

MATT HART FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE TOLD THE COURT THAT HUBBARD WAS DRIVEN BY GREED.

HE SAID THAT GREED HAS DAMAGED THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY BILL BAXLEY TOLD THAT HUBBARD DID NOTHING WRONG AND THAT HE WILL BE VINDICATED.

"Mike Hubbard and his family have been the victims of a witch hunt. He is one of the very people I have ever known of that the jury has convicted that I believe with all my heart is innocent."

CHARACTER WITNESSES CALLED BY THE DEFENSE ECHOED BAXLEY'S STATEMENTS.

CONGRESSMAN MIKE ROGERS SAID HE DID NOT RECOGNIZE THE CARICATURE THE PROSECUTION MADE OUT OF HUBBARD.

ROGERS FEELS THE GRAND JURY FROM 20-14 WAS MANIPULATED AND THAT HUBBARD WAS RAILROADED.

THAT SENT THE COURTROOM INTO APPLAUSE.

ANOTHER CHARACTER WITNESS CALLED WAS AUBURN CITY COUNCILMAN AND HUBBARD'S LONGTIME FRIEND, GENE DULANEY.

DULANEY SAID HE IS PROUD TO CALL HUBBARD HIS FRIEND. HE ALSO TOUCHED ON THE PROSECUTION'S CLAIM THAT HUBBARD SHOWED NO REMORSE FOR HIS ACTIONS.

TO THAT, DULANEY SAID QUOTE - " YOU DO NOT HAVE A CLUE OF WHAT MIKE FEELS" END QUOTE.

"We will appeal this case all the way. I believe with every fiber in my being that at the end of all this, he will be totally vindicated. He'll be exonerated."

"The other character witnesses who took the stand were Hubbard's pastor, Dr. George Mathieson and Opelika Mayor Gary Fuller. Both saying that sending Hubbard to prison is uncalled for. On your side in Opelika, Alex Derencz, WRBL News Three." **6pm PKg 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

7/12 3rd District Commercial Cutdown -

"Drew Ferguson's controversial ad featuring Harris County Sheriff Mike Jolley met resistance not only from his opponent Mike Crane. National events forced Ferguson to take action. And he stands by those actions."

"Pulling the ad last Thursday in light of what happened was the appropriate thing to do."

NATS FROM AD: SEEN THIS ATTACK AD FROM ESTABLISHMENT POLITICIAN DREW FERGUSON, WHERE HIS CAMP DESCRIBED HOW DESPICABLE AND DISGUSTING...

FERGUSON BELIEVES CRANE'S RESPONSE TO HIS AD WAS UNCALLED FOR.

"You have an informed discussion. You can do that every single day, but what you cannot do, particularly in today's environment is tell people it's ok to challenge law enforcement in a way that would cause them harm."

NATS FROM AD: YOU COME TO MY HOUSE AND KICK DOWN MY DOOR, I WILL SHOOT YOU DEAD.

A NEW FERGUSON AD STARTING WEDNESDAY WILL CHALLENGE CRANE ON HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT.

"Our response ad that we put out, it captures the heart, my heart, and most American's hearts that says we love law enforcement.

CRANE SAYS HIS COMMENTS WERE DIRECTED AT OFFICERS WHO SERVE WARRANTS WITHOUT KNOCKING ON YOUR DOOR FIRST.

"That's why no knock warrants should be so rare, if at all, used. Because they're very dangerous for our law enforcement community and they're dangerous for the folks on the other side of that door who may or may not be guilty of anything."

THOUGH FERGUSON HAS RACKED UP ENDORSEMENTS FROM FORMER 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CANDIDATES, AND EVEN RETIRING INCUMBENT LYNN WESTMORELAND,

CRANE TAKES ISSUE WITH WHO SUPPORTS HIS OPPONENT.

"He's got his list of endorsements, but most of them come from political insiders.

"I think to say that I'm a political insider or connected to Washington is purely rhetoric coming from the other side."

"A recent independent poll by a group called "Z POLITICS" has Ferguson currently winning by 6 - points. The runoff election is July 26." **6pm PKg 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

7/13 Sen. Whatley Roundtable -

SOLVING PROBLEMS IS NOTHING NEW TO SENATOR TOM WHATLEY...
IN FACT, HE CONSIDERS IT PART OF HIS JOB.

"Most of my legislation comes from folks in the district who come to me with a problem or an issue that needs fixing and solving, and that's what I intend to do. The only way to know that is to talk with people in the district."

AND TALK IS WHAT HE DID DURING THE WEDNESDAY MORNING MEETING.

THE SENATOR TOLD THE CROWD THE ROAD AHEAD FOR THE STATE LOOKS GREAT.

AND GOING FORWARD THE STATE WILL FOCUS ON JOB CREATION, EDUCATION, AND SOLVING THE MEDICAID ISSUE.

LEE COUNTY SHERIFF JAY JONES ATTENDED WEDNESDAY MEETING.

HE IS EXCITED FOR ALABAMA'S FUTURE GROWTH WITH WHATLEY REPRESENTING THE STATE.

"Obviously, with issues that come before us having a senator that listens, that will work with us to find solutions certainly from legislation that has benefited us since Senator Whatley has been in the legislature."

"Senator Whatley says it's always great to meet with folks from the district. In addition, he says these meetings are extremely important to him."

"It's my home. It's your home. It's where everybody is from. If we don't take care of it, who will? It's our district. It's our area and we're going to continue to make sure it's a great place for people to live, for people to work and for people to raise their family."

OTHER TOPICS DISCUSSED WERE ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND ALABAMA'S PIECE OF THE B-P SETTLEMENT.

ON YOUR SIDE IN AUBURN, ALEX DERENCZ, W-R-B-L NEWS THREE. **6pm PKg**
1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

7/14 City MGR VS School Board - CITY MANAGER ISAIAH HUGLEY SAYS THE FIRST TEXT FROM MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER FRANK MYERS CAME SHORTLY BEFORE 10 TUESDAY NIGHT.

"Saying are we communicating?"

HUGLEY SAYS HE DIDN'T RESPOND.

"He sends a second text at 10:33 saying did you get my text message above? I didn't respond. At 11:05 is when the threat came in."

HE SAYS THE MESSAGE FROM MYERS CONCERNS MYERS' FRIEND. MYERS AGREED TO AN INTERVIEW ONLY IF WE STIPULATED THAT WE WOULD NOT USE THE NAME OF HIS FRIEND.

"If I cause him to lose his job, what would happen with me and that was very concerning to me." HUGLEY IS SPEAKING OF A TEXT MESSAGE FROM MYERS. IN IT MYERS WRITES, "IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO HIS FRIEND'S JOB YOU WILL BECOME THE STORY AND NOT YOUR SISTER. UNDERSTAND?"

"And that's what the city manager calls a threat?"

MYERS DOES NOT CONSIDER HIS TEXT MESSAGE A THREAT.

"It's bizarre to me that it can be stretched into some idea that I'm making a threat against somebody. I was letting the man know that he needs to leave my friend alone. That's it."

HUGLEY SAYS HE HAS WATCHED MYERS BULLY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AND THE SUPERINTENDENT BEFORE.

"We have this behavior for a person who holds a high public office and they're making decisions regarding our teachers and our children and so that is concerning to me."

MYERS SAYS HE IS GOING TO CONTINUE TO KEEP WHAT'S BEST FOR THE SCHOOL SYSTEM AT THE TOP OF HIS PRIORITIES.

"The only threat the Hugley's have from me is political and if they want to stand in the way of me fixing the school system, that threat is going to continue because I'm going to fight to continue to fix this school system. That's what I promised people I would do."

MYERS LAST EMAIL TO HUGLEY SAYS HIS FRIEND IS WILLING TO TAKE A LIE DETECTOR TEST ABOUT THE INCIDENT. **11pm PKG 1:30**

7/15 Gage Fenwick Dist 79 -

GAGE FENWICK IS A JUNIOR AT AUBURN UNIVERSITY, WHERE HE STUDIES ECONOMICS.

HE'S ONLY 21 YEARS, OLD BUT HE KNOWS WHY HE WANTS TO RUN FOR THE STATE HOUSE.

HE BELIEVES THE DISTRICT DESERVES ANOTHER OPTION.

"We have many Republicans running, and I have every respect for the Republican party, but when you have just one party on the ballot, it limits the peoples options, and that leads to corruption. By giving people more options decreases the amount of corruption and gives people another voice."

FENWICK SAYS HE BRINGS A CALL AGAINST CORRUPTION, AND A VOICE FOR THE MILLENNIAL GENERATION.

SOME OF THE ISSUES HE PLANS TO LOOK AT INCLUDE WHAT HE CALLS THE FISCAL IRRESPONSIBILITY OF THE STATE.

ENACTING CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM WHERE NON-VIOLENT CRIMINALS DO NOT SERVE JAIL TIME.

AS WELL AS TERM-LIMITS, INITIATIVES AND REFERENDUMS.

FOR FENWICK, THE DISTRICT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO HIM.

"Auburn is home to me. I was born and raised an Auburn fan. Both of my parents went here. This is where they met and fell in love, and I love Auburn ever since I moved to Auburn for college, and I believe I can give the people true representation, help the district out. This is how I want to serve my community."

"When asked about possibly taking over Mike Hubbard's seat, Fenwick says he's not worried about that. He just wants to serve the people."

"I believe the people in District 79 realize now the problems that are occurring in our state government, and they have a real opportunity now to elect someone who is going to call out that corruption, someone who is really going to bring liberty to our state and allow the people to make decisions for themselves through a representative that is truly going to represent them and not the businesses that he profits from."

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

7/20 Policing In Columbus -

NOPAZZO HINES JUNIOR WAS PULLED OVER BY A POLICE OFFICER LAST WEEK AND AS SOON AS HE HEARD THE SIRENS AND SAW THE BRIGHT LIGHTS HE IMMEDIATELY THOUGHT...

"Aww man. I prayed to God that it wasn't a racist cop or not anybody that's trying to do something late night looking for somebody to mess with."

MAYOR TERESA TOMLINSON SAYS COLUMBUS POLICE OFFICERS GO THROUGH EXTENSIVE TRAINING BEFORE THEIR GIVEN A BADGE OR A GUN.

"We do it when they come in and they have to take sensitivity and what we call anti-biased training. It's cultural sensitivity because certain individuals may not respond the way that you think."

IF YOU GET PULLED OVER BY A POLICE OFFICER THE FIRST THING YOU SHOULD DO IS ROLL DOWN YOUR WINDOW... PUT YOUR HANDS ON THE STEERING WHEEL... AND ASK THE OFFICER IF THEY NEED ANY INFORMATION.

TOMLINSON SAYS OFFICERS WHO FEEL THREATENED ARE TRAINED TO FOLLOW CERTAIN PROTOCOLS.

FIRST, THEY MUST TRY TO GET CONTROL OF THE SITUATION BY USING CLOSED FISTS, PEPPER SPRAY, A BATON OR A TASER BEFORE THEY REACH FOR THEIR WEAPON.

"Then the use of force as we know as deadly use of force which refers to a gun and that's the last."

HINES SAYS ALTHOUGH ALL OFFICERS AREN'T BAD, HE BELIEVES THE MEDIA PLAYS A ROLE IN HOW OFFICERS VIEW THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY.

"The more they hear it, the more they're going to believe it because if they're not actually in those neighborhoods and seeing what's going on for themselves. There are actually a lot of good cops out their that be in our neighborhoods to protect and serve and do their jobs."

TOMLINSON WANTS THE COMMUNITY AND OFFICERS TO COME TOGETHER SO THAT WE CAN UNITE THE FOUNTAIN CITY AND MAKE IT A BETTER PLACE FOR EVERYONE.

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

7/20 Police Prayer At The Square -

"Cuthbert has come, to me, almost full circle."

IN LARRY MURPHY'S 61 YEARS OF LIVING IN CUTHBERT, HE HAS NEVER SEEN SUCH A SHOWING OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE COMMUNITY COMING TOGETHER.

MURPHY SAYS RACE DEFINED THE JIM CROW ERA. BUT HE WANTS TODAY'S ERA TO BE DIFFERENT.

"We're no better than each other. And if we can't help each other, then who can we help. And so when I'm in need, my neighbor comes to help me. And when my neighbor's in need I go help him. That's the kind of relationship and community we're trying to build."

CUTHBERT INTERIM POLICE CHIEF JENNIFER FAIRBANKS EXPLAINS THAT BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN BLACK LIVES AND BLUE LIVES STARTS WITH ENGAGING ALL LIVES.

"We're reaching out to our communities to let them know that we stand behind them and we want them to support us. That's the purpose of recognizing the black and the blue."

MANY PEOPLE ARE TURNING TO FAITH TO TRY AND UNDERSTAND EACH SIDE'S STRUGGLE.

"Love goes to all sides. It doesn't matter if it's the police side or the other side. The role of the church is not to pick sides. The role of the church is to love each person."

STATE REPRESENTATIVE GERALD GREENE SAYS GOVERNOR NATHAN DEAL IS PROPOSING INCREASED MEASURES IN SUPPORT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT.

"We have always advocated doing something, not just locking people up, but doing something to help them."

MEANWHILE, THE CUTHBERT COMMUNITY IS COMING TOGETHER, REGARDLESS OF RACE, TO MAKE SURE VIOLENCE DOESN'T STAND IN THE WAY OF SAFETY.

"We ain't gonna make everybody happy. But we have a job to do, we have an oath. So we have to do that. But our community pretty much supports us well."

LM:<"We're coming together, white people saying skin don't matter. Black people saying skin don't matter. It's about the content of your character and how much you love other people." 6pm

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

7/26 3rd Congressional District Race -

TONIGHT DETERMINES WHO WILL REPRESENT THE G-O-P IN NOVEMBER FOR THE U-S HOUSE DISTRICT 3 RACE.

STATE SENATOR MIKE CRANE NARROWLY EDGED FORMER WEST POINT MAYOR DREW FERGUSON BACK IN MAY.

BUT BECAUSE NO CANDIDATE GOT 50-PERCENT OF THE VOTE *THEN*, WE'RE IN A RUNOFF TONIGHT.

SENATOR CRANE SAYS IT'S VERY RARE THAT A CONGRESSIONAL SEAT OPENS UP.

HE BELIEVES THAT HE IS THE ONLY CONSTITUTIONAL CONSERVATIVE ON THE BALLOT.

FERGUSON HAS BENEFITTED FROM THE RECENT ENDORSEMENTS OF SENATOR JOHNNY ISAKSON AND THE CURRENT REPRESENTATIVE FROM DISTRICT 3, LYNN WESTMORELAND. 6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45

7/28 Targeting Police Hate Crime -

ERICKA LOCKETTTE HAS BEEN MARRIED TO A DEPUTY MARSHALL FOR 13 YEARS. EVERYDAY SHE PRAYS THAT GOD WILL BRING HER SOUL MATE HOME.

"When my husband leaves the house people see the uniform, but I see the man underneath the uniform because he's my husband."

RAY SMITH, THE PHENIX CITY POLICE CHIEF, SAYS OFFICERS PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE EVERYDAY.

"Law enforcement officers have been shot at an 80 percent increase this year alone and of course when you take the Baton Rouge or the Dallas shootings that spikes it and it doesn't go unnoticed."

LOCKETTE IS FEELING UNEASY BECAUSE OF THE NATIONWIDE TENSION BETWEEN SOME PROTESTORS AND POLICE OFFICERS.

"Lately I've been concerned because of the things that are going on in the world today."

THE THIN BLUE LINE BILL WOULD ALLOW THE STATE TO PURSUE CHARGES AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PURSUE CAPITAL CHARGES TO ANYONE THAT HARMS A POLICE OFFICER.

"Definitely shows support because the killing of a police officer is a special threat to the community because if people don't have any respect for a police officer then they certainly won't have any respect for the citizens."

MEANWHILE LOCKETTE DOESN'T THINK THE BILL WILL CHANGE CRIMINALS MINDS WHO WANT TO INTENTIONALLY HURT LAW ENFORCEMENT.

"Will it change anything probably not because when people are doing things they're not thinking about the consequences because they're just reacting."

THE PHENIX CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT SUPPORTS THE BILL, BUT MORE THAN ANYTHING THEY WANT TO BRING UNITY AND PEACE TO THE STREETS.

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

8/2 Medicaid Cuts In East Al -

"A lot of our patients feel powerless."

PEDIATRICIAN ERIC TYLER SAYS MOST OF HIS PATIENTS DEPEND ON MEDICAID FOR TREATMENT.

"I think that they view this more along the lines of it's just another situation where nobody seems to care."

DOCTOR KIM OWENS BELIEVES EVERYONE SHOULD CARE ABOUT STATEWIDE MEDICAID CUTS, BECAUSE EVERYONE COULD FEEL THE EFFECTS.

"If physicians are forced to downsize their practices, lay off staff, and and in some situations, close their practices, this will mean less access to care for every Alabamian."

Greg Nichols, an administrator here at the East Alabama Medical Center in Opelika, says it could take months for patients to feel the effects of Medicaid cuts."

GOVERNOR ROBERT BENTLEY PROPOSED A STATE LOTTERY THAT WOULD BRING IN 225-MILLION DOLLARS TO REFILL THE MEDICAID BUDGET.

"It seems like an easy fix. But I think most states have proven that over a period of time, there's still issues with a lottery."

THERE'S ALSO THE 75-MILLION DOLLARS ALABAMA POCKETED FROM THE B-P OIL SPILL PAYOUT.

BUT MEDICAID MUST COMPETE FOR FUNDING WITH DAMAGED INFRASTRUCTURE FROM THAT SPILL, AS WELL AS THE STATE'S CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM.

HOWEVER, WITHOUT A SOLUTION...

"There are obvious, undesirable decisions that must be made. And who will suffer the most? Our patients."

NICHOLS EXPECTS LONGER WAIT TIMES AMONG OTHER PROBLEMS, AS PATIENTS LEAVE PRIVATE PRACTICES IN FAVOR OF HOSPITALS.

"Anyone that comes in our emergency room, we're going to take care of. Whether they pay or not, that's not going to change."

ON YOUR SIDE IN OPELIKA, JOE RIPLEY, W-R-B-L NEWS THREE. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

8/3 MCSD Lunch Changes -

That's insane! That's absolutely insane!"

THAT'S HEATHER DELGADO'S REACTION TO LEARNING THAT HER SIXTH GRADER PHOENIX'S BREAKFAST AND LUNCH WOULD BE FREE THIS SCHOOL YEAR.

MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOLS NUTRITION DIRECTOR SUSAN SCHLADER EXPLAINS.

"All children get breakfast and lunch at no cost. They don't have to fill out the free and reduced applications."

38 SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT FALL UNDER C-E-P STATUS, OR COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BEARS THE COSTS OF THE FOOD SERVED AT THESE SCHOOLS.

STUDENTS THAT QUALIFY FOR SNAP AND TAN-F BENEFITS, AS WELL AS HOMELESS AND FOSTER KIDS, ALL FACTOR INTO WHETHER A SCHOOL FALLS UNDER C-E-P STATUS.

If the percentage comes out to 65% in a school, the entire school can qualify."

"That's really really something positive for kids, parents, families and the community."

SAMUEL CHERAISI IMMIGRATED FROM KENYA.

HE SAYS THE NEW CHANGES WILL MAKE A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE.

Most parents always struggle to get a balanced meal for their kids."

"I think it's very helpful for a lot of parents that really work hard to make ends meet in this economy. It's really hard to make ends meet right now whether you have a great job or just a mediocre job."

DELGADO EXPECTS ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE TO SOAR AS STUDENTS WON'T WORRY ABOUT WHERE THEIR NEXT MEAL WILL COME FROM.

SHE'S ALSO LOOKING FORWARD TO SAVING A FEW BUCKS.

On days that he wants to eat what everyone else is eating, that's going to be great that I don't have to be mindful of sending him to school with money." **6p PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/3 LaGrange Boys Avoid Gangs -

FOUR TEENAGE BOYS APPROACHED ZSA ZSA HEARD, THE C-E-O AT THE LAGRANGE HOUSING AUTHORITY, LOOKING FOR A JOB.

HEARD GAVE THEM ONE SHOT TO PROVE THEY WERE READY TO TAKE ON THE RESPONSIBILITY.

"I said listen boys tell me why you really want a job. In my head I thought they were going to say I want some extra money to buy school clothes."

BUT THAT WAS FAR FROM THE TRUTH.

DEMOND WOODARD, ONE OF THE FOUR BOYS WANTED A JOB TO STAY OUT OF GANGS.

"Because I didn't want to die or be sent to jail for life without seeing my momma."

"I want to get money instead of being in the streets and in a gang because I want to make my momma proud."

HEARD WAS IN SHOCK WHEN SHE FOUND OUT THEY WERE APPROACHED BY GANGS.

SHE DID EVERYTHING IN HER POWER TO MAKE SURE THEY HAD MONEY IN THEIR POCKETS.

"I was put here for a greater purpose than what I'm doing so when I'm faced with things like that I feel like it's my job to find an innovative way to correct the problem."

JOHNNY BYRD, THE DIRECTOR OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES AT THE LAGRANGE HOUSING AUTHORITY SAYS GANG LEADERS ARE GETTING MORE AGGRESSIVE WHEN APPROACHING TEENS.

"Gang members are now reaching out to the youth trying to recruit them to be apart of the gang."

IN AN EFFORT TO KEEP KIDS AND OUR COMMUNITY SAFE, HEARD SAYS IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START WORKING WITH TEENS.

"If they learn to work for it and they earn it, they begin to take care of it more, value it more, and you increase their chances of needing more dependency and we will see a more independent behavior."

BEHAVIOR THAT BEGINS WITH FINDING WORK AND HELP FROM SOME UNLIKELY PLACES.

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

8/4 School Bus Safety -

KIMBERLY ELEK, HAS THREE KIDS WHO ATTEND LADONIA SCHOOL.
AND TODAY - HER YOUNGEST SON STARTED KINDERGARDEN.

"It was his first year going to school, so it was nervous for mom."

MORE THAN 400 STUDENTS ATTEND LADONIA, WHICH MAKES IT CRUCIAL FOR THE FACULTY TO MONITOR WHICH STUDENTS ARE TAKING THE SCHOOL BUS AND WHERE THEY'RE GOING.

JACOB JOHNSON, THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AT LADONIA ELEMENTARY SAYS GETTING STUDENTS ON THE RIGHT BUSES IS IMPORTANT TO GET YEAR OFF TO A SMOOTH START.

"If anything goes wrong it throws off the timing of the route, they may be late getting to school or getting home."

"STUDENTS HAVE DIFFERENT COLORED WRIST BANDS TO MAKE SURE THEY GET ON THE RIGHT BUS."

PAM SIMPSON, THE PRINCIPAL AT LADONIA ELEMENTARY SAYS THE WRISTBANDS HELP MAKE LOADING THE BUSES GO SMOOTHLY - ESPECIALLY DURING THE FIRST FEW DAYS.

"Say they're on the red bus and then they would get a red wrist band. If they rode the bus this morning they would get a wrist band and then this afternoon they'll match them up and make sure they're on the right bus."

AND IF STUDENTS GET ON THE WRONG BUS...

"We're in contact with our drivers using radios and they'll just bring them back to the school and we'll make sure they get on the right bus to get home."

MEANWHILE ELEK DOESN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HER KIDS BECAUSE THEY'RE IN GOOD HANDS.

"They make sure they get to their classes like they're supposed to and they make sure that I get them at the end of day safely."

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

8/8 Roy Moore Hearing -

"The area at the top of the steps here at the Alabama Supreme is empty now, but earlier it was filled with those both for and against Chief Justice Roy Moore. Both sides made their thoughts of the chief justice very clear.

AFTER 90 MINUTES OF BOTH SIDES MAKING THEIR CASES HEARD, CHIEF JUDGE MICHAEL JOINER SAYS A DECISION ON CHIEF JUSTICE MOORE WILL BE MADE IN A COUPLE OF DAYS.

MOORE IS ACCUSED OF TELLING STATE PROBATE JUDGES TO DISOBEY THE SUPREME COURT RULING RELATING TO SAME SEX MARRIAGE.

MOORE'S COUNSEL TOLD THE COURT THAT MOORE NEVER INSTRUCTED ANYONE TO DEFY THE RULING OF THE U-S SUPREME COURT AND THAT MOORE SAID A BAN ON ISSUING SAME SEX MARRIAGE LICENSES REMAINED IN EFFECT UNTIL THE STATE'S HIGH COURT DID AWAY WITH IT.

THE PROSECUTION SAYS MOORE HAS REPEATEDLY DISOBEYED THE LAW OF THE FEDERAL COURT AND HE WAS ON A MISSION TO NOT RECOGNIZE SAME SEX MARRIAGE.

"We expect that the JIC will face up to the fact that they do take joy in this and we expect the COJ to enter a case giving a summary judgment in this case because there is no evidence saying we violated any law. It's a legal order."

"He's told 68 probate judges that they ought to defy federal law. It's intolerable for the state to have a chief justice who does that kind of thing. He can do it from the pulpit, he can say whatever he wants, but he can't do it from the bench, and that's why he needs to be removed from office."

"If the case does go to a trial, the prosecution says it would only take one day. Moore's counsel says it would take less than one day. A tentative trial date is set for September 28-th. On your side in Montgomery, Alex Derencz. WRBL News Three. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

8/11 Youth Crime Rate In Columbus -

AFTER THE LAST BELL OF THE DAY, MANY AREA STUDENTS HEAD HOME TO A WARM MEAL AND A HAPPY HOME. HOWEVER...SOME KIDS AREN'T SO LUCKY...AND THE EFFECTS OF THIS DEFICIT CAN BE DEADLY.

"I just wasn't thinking straight and just didn't care."

AUSTIN PRICE IS ONE YOUNG MAN WHO SAYS HIS LIFE WENT SOUTH BECAUSE OF A DYSFUNCTIONAL HOME LIFE.

AFTER A VIOLENT ARGUMENT WITH HIS YOUNGER BROTHERS BACK HOME IN FAYETTE, ALABAMA, PRICE WAS SENT TO A GROUP HOME IN PHENIX CITY KNOWN AS

"TEEN UNIVERSITY NEW LIFE CENTER FOR CHANGE," A MOVE THAT HE SAYS SAVED HIS LIFE.

"I could be in jail, I could be dead on the streets, I could be so many other worse places than this."

AT TEEN UNIVERSITY, UP TO 47 AT-RISK YOUNG MEN HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR OWN PRIVATE, COMFORTABLE SPACE AND AMENITIES, A MUCH BETTER OPTION THAN THE ALTERNATIVE--A COLD JAIL CELL BEHIND METAL BARS.

ACCORDING TO THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE...THE NUMBER OF TEENS COMMITTED THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE INCREASED 40% FROM 2010 TO 2014.

AND SO FAR THIS YEAR, 8 OF 13 HOMICIDE VICTIMS HAVE BEEN UNDER THE AGE OF 25.

JUVENILE JUSTICE JUDGE WARREN KENNON EXPLAINS WHAT HE'S OBSERVED DURING HIS TIME ON THE BENCH..

"It's not just a Columbus phenomenon or a Georgia phenomenon, but really a national phenomenon, and that is that we are seeing sadly younger and more serious offenses."

RICK SMITH, THE DIRECTOR OF TEEN UNIVERSITY, SAYS THE HIKE IN THESE YOUTH CRIME RATES CAN BE BLAMED ON PARENTAL NEGLECT IN THE HOME.

"When we don't spend the quality time that we have to spend with our children, then they will get their education and they will get their mindset from outside sources."

TEEN UNIVERSITY ISN'T THE ONLY ORGANIZATION TRYING TO TURN THESE NUMBERS AROUND.

RODNEY CLOSE, CEO OF THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF THE CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY SAYS THEIR MISSION IS TO GET KIDS TO FOCUS ON LIFE'S BIGGER PICTURE THROUGH THEIR AFTER-SCHOOL AND SUMMER PROGRAMS.

"I think it starts with educating our youth around the possibilities that are down the road for them. What today may not be possible may be possible in the future."

TEARS INC. IN PHENIX CITY PROVIDES SIMILAR SERVICES. THE DIRECTOR THERE, MARIE SLAYTON, BELIEVES LOW SELF-ESTEEM ALSO LEADS TEENS TO DELINQUENCY.

"If I don't feel good about myself I'm not gonna feel good about you, and if I don't feel good about myself I'm gonna treat myself wrong, I'm gonna allow other people to misuse me, to mistreat me, and I will do the same for others."

REGARDLESS OF THE CAUSE, ALL OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO KEEP YOUTH IN THE COMMUNITY ON THE RIGHT PATH.

AND FOR AUSTIN, THEIR BEST HAS BEEN MORE THAN GOOD ENOUGH.

"I needed to be a better me, and they've done it." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/16 Opelika Ward 2 Race -

"The four individuals running for the Ward 2 seat are very excited for next Tuesday's election. They say the ward up for grabs is very important to them."

WARD TWO CITY COUNCILMAN LARRY GRAY IS SEEKING HIS THIRD TERM ON CITY COUNCIL.

FOR HIM, FIGHTING CRIME IS A JOINT EFFORT BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND POLICE.

"I want to be a person that works for all because we are such a diverse community economically, racially. We are really diverse. I want to work for everybody and give everybody a fair shot."

NELSON MARSH IS ONE OF THE CHALLENGERS.

FOR MARSH, EQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF CITY SERVICES, SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE AND MAKING SURE THE CITY COMBATS CRIME ARE IMPORTANT.

"When I say that I care about Ward 2, and its my entire life, that's because it really is. Everything we do happens in these 10 blocks. I know it intimately; every road, every crack, every bad sidewalk, every interesting person."

OSCAR PENN ALMOST WON THE WARD FOUR YEARS AGO.

PENN WANTS TO INVEST IN YOUTH, HELP POLICE AND THE COMMUNITY, AND LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS.

"If there was an old lady who had just paid to get her grass cut, and there was one blade of grass sticking up in her yard, and it worried her, I walk with a cane, and I would leave here right now, go over to her house, point out that blade of grass to me and pluck it just to make her happy."

TIFFANY GIBSON-PITTS IS ALSO RUNNING.

GIBSON-PITTS WANTS TO INVEST IN YOUTH, MAINTAIN RIGHT OF WAYS, AND ENSURE EQUAL SERVICES FOR EVERYONE.

"The Jeter area is the most neglected area in the city, and that's an injustice to all of the people who live in that area. It's unfair that they pay the same taxes, but the area that they live in is not kept up as other areas as other areas in Opelika are, and it's just time for us to shine light on that."

"The other city council race taking place next Tuesday is in Ward 1 between the incumbent, Patsy Jones and challenger, Greg Jones. On your side in Opelika, Alex Derencz, Wrbl News Three.
6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

8/17 Ward One Council Race -

"Even though the two individuals in the Ward One City Council race share the same last name of Jones, they are not related. What they do share is the desire to be the city councilor for their ward."

PATSY JONES IS SEEKING HER SEVENTH TERM AS WARD TWO'S CITY COUNCILOR.

SHE'S RUNNING AGAIN DUE TO THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE CITY AND HER WARD.

IMPROVING THE EDUCATION SYSTEM, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SUPPORTING PUBLIC SAFETY AND MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFE ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO HER.

"I want Opelika to be the best city in the world, and this is the way I feel I can give back to help because of the things I have benefitted from thanks to the City of Opelika. I'm a former school teacher, so it comes natural for me as being one who wants to touch lives."

GREG JONES IS RUNNING AGAINST HER.

JONES SAYS THE WARD HAS GONE DOWN HILL OVER THE YEARS, AND HE FELT A NEED TO STRAIGHTEN IT UP.

BRINGING THE PEOPLE TOGETHER AND WORKING WITH THE OPELIKA HOUSING AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM FOR YOUNG PARENTS IN PUBLIC HOUSING ARE SOME OF THE THINGS IMPORTANT TO HIM.

HE'S RUNNING TO SERVE THE LORD.

"Being a servant of the lord, your job is 24-7. Not just once a year or once every four years when election time comes up. That's why I want to run and show the people that I can be a servant to them."

FOR BOTH CANDIDATES, WARD ONE IS DEARLY IMPORTANT TO THEM.

"I want us to be the best. I know we can, and I keep trying in every way I know how to make Ward 1 and the City of Opelika the best place to live."

"I feel and I know, and I can guarantee the people that there will be a big change in Ward 1; a positive change in Ward 1."

in addition to the Ward 1 race next Tuesday, Ward 2 will also be up for grabs. On your side in Opelika, Alex Derencz, Wrbt News Three." **6pm PKG 1:30, 11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/18 Gov. Bentley Visit Phenix City -

"I'm at the Mayor's office for a private meeting with Governor Robert Bentley and Mayor Eddie Lowe to discuss the ongoing projects to improve Phenix City."

[<mos>A - () (L3 2 Line) - | White Flag | ONLY ON 3 | GOVERNOR BENTLEY COMES TO TOWN | PHENIX CITY => 00061774 (L3 2 Line)</mos>]

THIS WAS GOVERNOR BENTLEY'S FIRST STOP ON HIS TRIP. AFTER THAT PRIVATE MEETING, THE GOVERNOR MET WITH MEMBERS OF THE RIVERCITY FOUNDRY START-UP ACCELERATOR -- A PROGRAM DESIGNED TO BUILD UP SMALL BUSINESSES.

GOVERNOR BENTLEY SAYS THE ACCELERATED ALABAMA PLAN WAS CREATED FIVE YEARS AGO.

"Those ideas develop into products and then they develop into businesses and then they inspire people. That's how new businesses develop. In fact almost every large business in the United States started as a small business."

GREGORY HILL, A MENTOR FOR ENTREPRENEURS, SAYS IT'S IMPORTANT TO SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS BECAUSE IT SPURS ECONOMIC GROWTH.

"It's kind of like compounding interest, when you empower somebody else to apply their talent and give them opportunities that they may not have been able to have, it allows them to apply that talent to their own ambitions and pursuits. It then stems out to other start ups and other ideas."

GOVERNOR BENTLEY SAYS THERE'S FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR START UPS. ONE SOURCE IS ANGEL INVESTORS.

"The other one that we have I put in the education trust fund it's called an innovation fund and it's matched dollar for dollar to help this type of innovation depot development of this foundry."

BENTLEY SAYS HE WAS IMPRESSED BY WHAT HE SAW IN PHENIX CITY.

"All the natural resources like our rapids out here and all the things that are taking place in the city and the development downtown it's just a city that's on the move and I'm proud to be here today."

"After Mayor Lowe and Governor Bentley met with the River City Foundry, they attended a private lunch with local entrepreneurs who discussed their success stories as well as plans for future growth." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/18 Uber Launch In Auburn -

JESSE WESTERHOUSE IS THE PRESIDENT OF AUBURN'S STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION.

ONE OF HIS PLATFORM POINTS WAS BRINGING UBER BACK TO AUBURN.

"It's really exciting to see that come together and come through. It's been awesome to work alongside the university, university officials, the City of Auburn. They saw the importance with having a safety option for students. When students and community members are empowered to more options, they are going to make better decisions that can save lives."

AFTER USING THE UBER APP, HE AND COUNCILMAN GENE DULANEY TOOK THE FIRST RIDE IN AN UBER.

A RIDE, NEARLY TWO YEARS IN THE MAKING.

"While some are excited to see Uber return to the streets of Auburn, there are some who are not.

JEFF STEIGER IS THE OWNER OF K-G-M TAXIS.

HE LOOKS AT IT FROM A COMPETITIVE STANDPOINT.

STEIGER SAYS THEY DO NOT HAVE THE SAME COSTS AS UBER.

AND THEY CAN'T COVER THE SAME COSTS WITH THE SAME FARE.

STEIGER SAYS THE TAXIS GET ABOUT 15 HOURS A WEEK IN BUSINESS.

LOSING BUSINESS WOULD BE A PROBLEM FOR MAINTENANCE AND INSURANCE COSTS.

"You gotta make the dollars and cents to pay the bills. If you lose 50% of your business to Uber, and spread that across to all the other taxis in Auburn, paying your bills won't be possible."

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

8/22 Loachapoka No Candidate -

FEWER THAN 200 PEOPLE CALL LOACHAPOKA HOME.
AND YET IT'S LESS THAN 10 MILES FROM AUBURN.
IT'S A QUIET PLACE.

AND THE POLLS WILL BE QUIET ON TUESDAY TOO.
TRAVIS WISDOM IS THE TOWN'S ATTORNEY.

"I've never seen anything like this. My conversations with the Secretary of State's Office in the election division, they have never seen anything like this. I've spoken with a representative from Alabama's League of Municipalities and they have not really seen anything like this before."

*THIS REFERS TO NO CANDIDATES QUALIFYING FOR TUESDAY'S ELECTION.
TOWN COUNCIL HAS FIVE SEATS.
THE INCUMBENTS FILED CERTAIN REQUIRED DOCUMENTS, BUT DID NOT FILE A STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY.

IT HAD TO BE FILED BY THE THIRD TUESDAY OF JULY.
ZACH HOLMES CURRENTLY SERVES ON TOWN COUNCIL.
HE WAS PLANNING TO RUN FOR MAYOR, BUT WAS UNABLE DUE TO NOT FILING THE STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY.

ACCORDING TO THE ATTORNEY SOMEONE ELSE TRIED TO RUN FOR MAYOR, BUT FOUND OUT HE DID NOT LIVE WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS.

"Voting was set to take place here at the Loachpoka Community Center, but with nobody to vote for, the question now is what is the next step for the town."

ACCORDING TO THE ATTORNEY THE CURRENT COUNCIL CAN FILL THE VACANCIES WITH FOR THEIR REMAINING TERMS.

THEY CAN ALSO HOLD OFF FOR A SPECIAL ELECTION.
OR SUBMIT NAMES TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR APPOINTMENT.

"It's very rare that the governor will act in these cases. I would presume that council will fill their own vacancies the remaining terms they have left and the authority they have in that term, or you'll see a special election."

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

8/23 Phenix City Races -

HEY PHIL AND TERESA - BOTH MAYORAL CANDIDATES HAVE BEEN OUT HERE CAMPAIGNING TODAY ALONG WITH THEIR SUPPORTERS.

INCUMBENT EDDIE LOWE IS RUNNING FOR HIS SECOND TERM.

HE BECAME PHENIX CITY'S FIRST BLACK
MAYOR WHEN HE WON THE ELECTION FOUR YEARS AGO.

TODAY - HE IS FACING JERRY BARBAREE WHO IS A FORMER HOSPITAL HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR.

I HAD A CHANCE TO CATCH UP WITH
BOTH CANDIDATES TODAY.

LOWE AND BARBAREE BOTH SAY THEY ARE OPTIMISTIC WITH THE VOTER TURNOUT TODAY.

BUT - LOWE SAYS THE PHENIX CITY IS HEADED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION WHILE BARBAREE SAYS MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE WITH THE INFRASTRUCTURE. **6pm**

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

8/23 Smiths Station Mayors Race -

HI, PHIL AND TERESA.

BOTH CANDIDATES HAVE HAD BUSY DAYS.

THEY'VE BOTH BEEN HERE THROUGHOUT THE DAY UNDER TENTS DOING SOME LAST MINUTE CAMPAIGNING.

BESSANT, IF ELECTED, IS NEW TO POLITICS.

BUT HE'S SPENT THE LAST EIGHT YEARS ON THE CITY OF SMITHS STATION PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION AS VICE-CHAIRMAN.

COPELAND, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS CURRENTLY ON THE LEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD.

VOTERS ELECTED HIM TO THAT POST FOR THE PAST 11 YEARS.

EARLIER TODAY, I HAD THE CHANCE TO ASK EACH CANDIDATE WHAT WOULD BE FIRST ON HIS AGENDA IF HE WINS THE MAYOR'S SEAT. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/24 Ward 2 Runoff -

"This is Councilman Larry Gray's seat in council chambers. Come November 1st, someone else will be sitting here. That person will be the winner of the October 4th runoff."

TIFFANY GIBSON PITTS SAYS SHE IS NOT SHOCKED ABOUT A RUNOFF SINCE THERE WERE FOUR PEOPLE RUNNING FOR THE SEAT.

SHE IS PROUD OF THE RACE SHE RAN, BUT HAS HER WORK CUT OUT FOR HER.

"I'm just thinking about the areas that I need to re-cover again to meet the people who are in Ward 2. Ward 2 is so spread out. It was just so large. Many areas I did not get to personally knock on the doors, but I do plan on hitting those areas in a couple weeks."

OSCAR PENN FINISHED SECOND.

HE SAYS THERE IS A LOT MORE WORK TO BE DONE.

HE ADDS THE VOTING PROCESS OPENS DOORS FOR FOLKS LIKE HIM TO GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY HE LOVES SO MUCH.

"The runoff is just another stepping stone in the battlefield of the Lord for what he is preparing us for. It makes me wonder if the Lord has something more for me to do by not being in that seat or whatever because of the struggle it takes to get there, but I'm willing to fight that battle."

A RUNOFF OCCURS WHEN NO CANDIDATE RECEIVES 50 PERCENT PLUS ONE OF THE VOTE.

ONLY 11 VOTES SEPERATED NELSON MARSH FROM OSCAR PENN.

HE WAS GLAD TO SEE THE RACE WAS RUN WITH CLASS BY ALL CANDIDATES AND THAT DEMOCRACY WORKED.

"I'm here to serve my community. Just because I won't be getting a paycheck for it, doesn't mean that changes. I do hope that people reach out and I do hope that people take issues that matter to them and bring them to me and to Tiffany and to Oscar and try and get them done."

"We did reach out to Councilman Gray. He says he is content with the election and he wishes the city, his ward and the future councilor of the ward the best luck. On your side in Opelika, Alex Derencz, WRBL News Three." **6pm PKg 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/25 Auburn Jane Doe - "It was near this area four years ago where Opelika Police say the remains of a young girl were found. They hope this new information will help trigger the memories of individuals in the community to help lead them to her killer or killers."

BACK IN JANUARY OF 20-12 THE REMAINS OF A GIRL WERE FOUND IN A SMALL CREEK NEAR HURST STREET.

POLICE BELIEVE THE CHILD WAS DEAD FOR EIGHT MONTHS TO TWO YEARS.

THEY DETERMINED SHE WAS A BLACK GIRL BETWEEN FOUR AND SEVEN YEARS OLD.

ON THURSDAY INVESTIGATORS RELEASED NEW IMAGES OF WHAT SHE MAY HAVE LOOKED LIKE BEFORE SHE DIED.

THE PHOTOS SHOW HER MEDIUM, TIGHT CURLED HAIR

AND THE SHIRT IN THE PHOTO IS THE SHIRT FOUND NEAR HER REMAINS.

POLICE SAY THE GIRL WAS LIKELY MALNOURISHED AND SHOWED SIGNS OF PHYSICAL ABUSE.

CAPTAIN SHANE HEALEY SAYS HIS TEAM IS REMINDED OF THIS CASE EVERY DAY. "It just rips your heart out. In this job, especially whenever young people are victimized, you can't help but think of your own children. If you see a child that's killed in a car accident or some other kind of horrific way, you can not help but put your kids in that situation."

ADVANCED D-N-A ANALYSIS AND ISOTOPE TESTING ARE NOW BEING CONDUCTED.

POLICE HOPE THE RESULTS WILL YIELD INFORMATION ABOUT THE GIRL'S ANCESTRAL TRAITS AND WHERE SHE MAY HAVE COME FROM.

IN THE MEANTIME, POLICE HOPE SOMEONE IN THE COMMUNITY RECOGNIZES HER AND WILL CALL THEM.

"There's always that one little thing that blows a case wide open. Our job is to search for those little things because they always lead to the bigger things."

"Anyone with information in this case is asked to call Opelika Police."

Their number is 334-705-5220. On your side in Opelika, Alex Derencz, WRBL News Three." **6pm**

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

8/26 Army Marksman Back Rio -

THE EXCITEMENT STARTED WITH A DROP-IN FROM MEMBERS OF THE SILVER WINGS PARACHUTE DEMONSTRATION TEAM.

THE POST WELCOMED FOUR SOLDIERS WITH THE U-S ARMY MARKSMANSHIP UNIT BACK FROM THE OLYMPIC GAMES IN RIO.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY GATHERED IN THE STANDS AT HOOK RANGE, LOOKING ON WITH PRIDE.

"To the four who just returned welcome home, and we have appreciated everything you have done to get to the Olympics and your performances while you were down there."

EACH OF THE COMPETITORS VALUES THE EXPERIENCE OF COMPETING IN RIO.

"Knowing you're with the most powerful nation in the world, it's just an awesome feeling."

"The people in Brazil top-notch and the accommodations that we had were great."

SPECIALIST DANIEL LOWE SAYS IT'S HARD TO PICK A BEST MOMENT-- BECAUSE THE ENTIRE EXPERIENCE WAS INCREDIBLE.

"Probably the best moment was walking out during the Opening Ceremony and having the whole stadium cheering for us. That was huge."

AS EXCITED AS EVERYONE HERE IS -- THAT HAPPINESS WILL CARRY OVER INTO SEPTEMBER.

STAFF SERGEANT JOHN WAYNE JOSS IS GETTING READY TO HEAD TO RIO TO COMPLETE IN THE PARALYMPIC GAMES.

"I'm nervous, but I'm excited because I'm a competitor, and I look forward to it."

AND FRIDAY, THE CROWD GOT A SAMPLE OF THE SKILLS THAT MADE THESE MEN OLYMPIC-BOUND.

NAT SOUND}

"Even though I'm the one wearing the uniform, there's this huge team behind me, including a lot of the guys here in this unit, who should be out there with me."

AND WE MAY VERY WELL SEE THESE FELLOWS SHOWING OFF THEIR SKILLS NEXT TIME AROUND IN TOKYO.

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

8/29 GBI Rape Kit -

THE COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT SEES ABOUT A DOZEN SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES EACH MONTH.

LIEUTENANT J DENT-FITZPATRICK SAYS DESPITE A STATE BACKLOG OF REPORTED EVIDENCE, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT IS KEEPING UP WITH THE WORKLOAD.

"We're not just talking about females. We're talking about males and children who are sexually assaulted. So as soon as we can get the information, and determine who caused the assault, the quicker we can solve the case."

THE LIEUTENANT SAYS COLLECTION KITS ARE KEY IN SOLVING SOME OF THE MOST UNDER-REPORTED CASES IN COLUMBUS.

"that victim is able to breathe and move on with their lives as much as possible."

"Collection kits include information about the victim, smears and other samples needed to solve their case."

HOWEVER, A NEW GEORGIA LAW NOW REQUIRES LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO SEND EACH UNTESTED KIT TO THE G-B-I.

"We're looking at double the number of examinations that will be required for testing."

MORE THAN THREE-THOUSAND ACTIVE CASES PLUS ANOTHER 35-HUNDRED DUE IN THIS WEEK.

We're just doing the best job we can at prioritizing the work coming in.">

AND AS THE G-B-I CONTINUES TO SOLVE MORE SEXUAL ASSAULT CRIMES THAN EVER BEFORE, POLICE SAY CLOSURE IS EVEN CLOSER FOR VICTIMS OF SUCH CRIMES.

"A lot of patience, ingenuity and teamwork to help solve these cases."

CASES SOLVED... AND VICTIMS HELPED.

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

8/29 DUI Enforcement Campaign -

"Everybody talked about her beauty . . . Her outside beauty, but she was a beautiful person inside more."

LISA GILMER'S DAUGHTER, 16 YEAR OLD HANNAH, WAS KILLED IN JUNE 20-12 WHEN THE CAR IN WHICH SHE WAS RIDING CRASHED INTO AN EMBANKMENT, FLIPPED SEVERAL TIMES, AND EJECTED HER THROUGH THE SUNROOF.

IT HAPPENED AT THE HANDS OF A DRUNK DRIVER.

THE PAIN NEVER GETS EASIER FOR HER FAMILY.

"We have a life sentence, a life without Hannah, Hannah received a death sentence, and we will not have parole ever for her death."

"Any automobile is a potentially deadly weapon, but add alcohol to that mix, and they become even more lethal. No one understands that better than people who have lost loved ones to drunk drivers."

"It's important for me to get that message out there that this behavior is unacceptable, and it also honors the life of my friend."

TARA ROTTHOFF WILL NEVER FORGET AUGUST 14, 19-92.

IT'S THE DAY HER FRIEND SAM WAS WAS STRUCK AND KILLED AND BY A DRUNK DRIVER.

SAM'S DEATH MOTIVATED HER TO VOLUNTEER FOR MADD.

"If the loss of Sam's life can remind one person either to not drink and drive or to be mindful of motorcyclists or bicyclists, he was bicyclist, on the road, that is going to be a tremendous savings."

"If you're driving, and you're drinking, you know, it's not worth the consequences of either taking a life, or ending your life, or ending up in prison."

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

8/30 Isakson Speaks With Military - BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE...BRAC...GEORGIA CONGRESSMAN SANFORD BISHOP CALLS IT A NECESSARY EVIL TO COMBAT THE SHRINKING MILITARY BUDGET.

"We need to make sure that our states are prepared to accommodate our military installations and I think there are things they need in training and preparing our troops."

SENATOR JOHNNY ISAKSON FROM GEORGIA
AGREES THAT DESPITE EFFORTS TO PREVENT
BUDGET CUTS, THE NATION NEEDS TO GET READY TO ACT.

Fort Benning here in Columbus trains everyone in infantry, Airborne, and Ranger School, so they all come through here as well. You just go around the state. Georgia's got a significant investment in each branch of the military and it's important that we preserve it.">

Warning shots of sequestration ring soundly in the ears of the military. And as they face additional cuts, military, business and political leaders are are preparing the state of Georgia."

BESIDES TROOP REDUCTIONS, EDUCATION COULD ALSO TAKE A HIT.

"For us in particular at Columbus State University, anywhere between 10-20% of our enrollment any given year is tied to the military."

THE CONSENSUS PRIORITY THROUGHOUT SEQUESTRATION:
MAINTAINING A STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE.

HOWEVER, MONEY MATTERS AND THE 150- THOUSAND GEORGIA MILITARY
JOBS AT STAKE... ARE CLOSE BEHIND.

"National defense and national security is number one for our military. But as a state, we want to look at our military communities as an industry."

"If we think Fort Benning is going to decline or stay the same, then we've got to make sure we have jobs being provided in other sectors."

LEADERS SAY THEY WANT TO TAKE ACTION
AHEAD OF TROOP REDUCTIONS STARTING IN 20-18.

"What we're doing is we're making sure our bases are so valuable to the military that they can't do without them. That's the whole point of what we're doing."

WHETHER IT'S PROTECTING A MILITARY BASE IN FORT BENNING,
SAVANNAH, WARNER ROBINS, OR ANYWHERE IN BETWEEN,
LEADERS IN EACH REGION ARE COMING
TOGETHER TO PLAN FOR CUTS THAT WILL AFFECT THE ENTIRE STATE.

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

9/2 Mike Hubbard Post Trial -

"The reason the request for the sheriff's office to investigate was denied is because the judge said there was no legal precedent for that."

JUDGE JACOB WALKER ALSO DENIED THE PROSECUTION'S REQUEST TO HAVE HUBBARD PAY MORE THAN ONE POINT ONE MILLION DOLLARS IN RESTITUTION. THAT AMOUNT EQUALS THE INVESTMENTS AND CONSULTING CONTRACTS HE RECEIVED.

PROSECUTORS SAY IT WOULD NOT BE FAIR FOR HUBBARD TO KEEP THAT MONEY, AND THE STATE WAS A VICTIM.

THE DEFENSE SAYS THE ARGUMENT OF THE STATE BEING A PERSON, AND RECEIVING PAYMENTS FOR BEING VICTIMIZED IS NOT VALID.

FRIDAY MORNING'S HEARING CAME AT THE DEFENSE'S REQUEST FOR A NEW TRIAL. ONE OF THE REASONS THEY REQUESTED A NEW TRIAL BECAUSE THEY SAY THERE WAS JUROR MISCONDUCT.

THE DEFENSE FILED AN AFFADAVIT, IN WHICH A JUROR CLAIMED ANOTHER JUROR MADE BIASED COMMENTS DURING THE TRIAL.

FRIDAY, THREE PEOPLE TESTIFIED ON THE MATTER.

COURT ADMINSTRATOR PATRICIA CAMPBELL WAS ONE OF THEM.

SHE TESTIFIED THAT EARLY IN THE TRIAL, A JUROR CAME TO HER SAYING THAT ANOTHER JUROR WAS MAKING COMMENTS UNDER HER BREATH.

COMMENTS RANGED FROM, UH-HUH, NOW THE TRUTH COMES OUT.

CAMPBELL SAID SHE TOLD A BAILIFF TO ASK THE WOMAN TO STOP MAKING COMMENTS IF SHE WAS DOING SO.

CAMPBELL AND THE TWO BAILIFFS TOLD THE COURT THEY DID NOT WITNESS ANY JURORS MAKING COMMENTS.

PROSECUTORS SAY NO MISCONDUCT OCCURRED.

THE DEFENSE SAYS THAT THERE IS NO WAY HUBBARD GOT A FAIR TRIAL.

"Judge Walker said he is open to hearing testimony from the juror who claimed another juror made biased comments. On your side in Opelika, Alex Derencz, WRBL News Three." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm VO/Sot:45**

9/5 Missing PTSD Dog -

TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT WHIZ.

HE'S NOT JUST A DOG FOR ROB GAINES.

HE'S NOT JUST A BELOVED FRIEND.

WHIZ IS A VERY SPECIAL ANIMAL-- A SERVICE DOG WHOSE BEEN BY ROB'S SIDE FOR YEARS.

"Whiz is my PTSD dog who has been with me since the day he was born. I have the mother and father. He's never left my side."

GAINES SAYS THAT WHIZ WAS STOLEN FROM HIM.

BECAUSE IT'S A PENDING INVESTIGATION, AND OUT OF RESPECT FOR THE POLICE, HE CAN'T SAY MUCH MORE THAN THAT-- ONLY THAT INVESTIGATORS ARE LOOKING TO IT.

BUT THIS VISITOR TO COLUMBUS DOES ASK A FAVOR OF ALL OF US.

HE WANTS US TO BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR WHIZ.

"You can call the police you can call us directly or you can us directly, or you can approach Whiz. You can just call his name; he'll come to you. He's not aggressive at all. He's good with kids; he's good with other animals; he's not aggressive at all." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

9/8 Unity Rally -

COMMUNITY LEADERS AND CITIZENS JOINED MAYOR EDDIE LOWE ON THE STEPS OF THE PHENIX CITY PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING-- IN WHAT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE DESCRIBED IN ITS PRESS RELEASE AS AN EVENT IN WHICH HE WOULD ADDRESS "RECENT RACIAL COMMENTS REGARDING PHENIX CITY AND . . . MOVING PHNEIX CITY FORWARD AS A UNITED COMMUNITY."

"And we're going to continue to show unity in Phenix City, and we are going to push back right, proper way, the Godly-way. That's why we're having this right here."

THE MESSAGE WAS WELL-RECEIVED AND APPRECIATED.

"I see people. I see love. I love what he's doing with this city. I look forward to what he can continue to do." >

"At the conclusion of today's press conference before Mayor Eddie Lowe left the podium, I asked him if there was any event in particular that prompted him to call today's press conference. All he would say is that today was all about being proactive."

Mayor Lowe: "we're being proactive."

Greg: "in what way, if you don't mind my asking?"

Mayor Lowe: "to show people that this is a loving place and to show people that we have unity in Phenix City."

BUT SOME THOUGHT THE MAYOR MIGHT BE AVOIDING A LINGERING CONTROVERSY.

"The mayor did it as nicely as he could possibly do it, but I think there needed to be a stronger message sent."

ERIC WOODSON, WHO ATTENDED THE EVENT, BELIEVES IT WAS LIKELY THE MAYOR'S RESPONSE TO OUTRAGE OVER RECENT PUBLISHED REMARKS ON SOCIAL MEDIA THAT REFERRED TO PHENIX CITY AS A QUOTE-- "CHOCOLATE CITY"

"As the leader of Phenix City, I would think he'd take those comments, and take them head on."

BUT THIS EVENT WAS ALL ABOUT BEING POSITIVE AND UNITED.

ON YOUR SIDE IN PHENIX CITY, GREG LOYD, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm

Vo/Sot:45

9/12 CSU Campus Security Precaution -

"I don't mind walking around campus sometimes."

COLUMBUS STATE SOPHOMORE ALEXIS BENNETT FEELS SAFE AND SECURE IN HER SECOND YEAR LIVING IN ON-CAMPUS HOUSING.

"I mean, for my own safety reasons, I always carry pepper spray. But that's the way I was raised."

BUT THREE RECENTLY REPORTED INCIDENTS, ALL IN LESS THAN THREE WEEKS AND ON CAMPUS HOUSING, HAVE STUDENTS AND CAMPUS POLICE ON HIGH ALERT.

"Actually, the first one, when the man was on the 4th floor, I was about to walk up the stairs. But they took me out the building before I did, thank God."

FRESHMAN TYLER CADENHEAD TELLS NEWS 3 C-S-U POLICE ARE CONDUCTING RANDOM I-D CHECKS NEAR STUDENT HOUSING.

HE'S ALSO STARTING TO SEE MORE OFFICERS ON CAMPUS.

"I see them driving around more than they did when school started. They weren't really out and about as much. But now they seem to be picking it up a little bit more than they were."

WE SPOKE WITH C-S-U POLICE CHIEF RUS DREW, WHO SAYS STUDENTS SHOULD GET USED TO SEEING MORE BLUE LIGHTING UP THE CAMPUS.

"I believe that's going to continue to be the pattern: that we're going to continue to be aggressive with our police patrols. And as we see that through these increased patrols of these areas, we'll continue to make arrests and if it's students, they'll no longer be here at the university."

AND THE RESULT... STUDENTS FEEL SAFER KNOWING POLICE ARE TRYING TO PREVENT DISASTER.

"That's a good thing. I don't necessarily see a problem with it. It makes me feel safer than just having 1 or 2 on duty."

"No, I actually feel much safer than I did before. I felt safe because of the gates. But now I feel safer because they're out there." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

9/13 House Race District 79-

TERESA, I JUST SPOKE WITH POLL WORKERS INSIDE THE CLARION HOTEL HERE ON SOUTH COLLEGE STREET IN AUBURN,

THEY SAY THE TURN OUT HAS BEEN (SLOW/INCREDIBLE)

AS TERESA MENTIONED -- THE FOUR REPUBLICANS RUNNING FOR THE NOMINATION ARE JAY CONNER, JOE LOVVORN, BRETT SMITH AND SANDY TOOMER.

IN OUR EARLY EDITION, WE HEARD FROM CONNER AND LOVVORN.

NOW WE'LL TELL YOU ABOUT SMITH AND TOOMER.

BRETT SMITH IS AN ATTORNEY IN THE CITY OF AUBURN.

THIS IS HIS FIRST POLITICAL CAMPAIGN.

SMITH IS PASSIONATE ABOUT JOB CREATION AND EFFICIENT EDUCATION.

MEANWHILE - THIS IS SANDY TOOMER'S SECOND TIME RUNNING FOR THE DISTRICT 79 SEAT.

HE RAN BACK IN 2014 AGAINST MIKE HUBBARD.

FOR TOOMER, SOME OF THE IMPORTANT ISSUES INCLUDE TERM LIMITS AND COMMON CORE.
BOTH MEN KNOW WHY THEY ARE VYING FOR MONTGOMERY. 6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

9/15 Veterans Project -

NO TWO STORIES OF MILITARY SERVICE ARE THE SAME.

THAT IS THE STORY ON DISPLAY AT AUBURN HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE VETERANS PROJECT.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBERT HOWARD HAS SERVED 27 YEARS IN THE MILITARY.

NOW A BATTALLION COMMANDER AT FORT BENNING, THE FLAME TO SERVE BURNS JUST AS STRONG AS THE DAY HE ENLISTED.

"Until October of 83, I wanted to be a fireman, but we invaded Grenada. I had an uncle who invaded Grenada and it intrigued me. So, in the sixth grade, I decided I wanted to be a paratrooper. First and foremost to jump out of airplanes and to shoot weapons."

THE DREAM TURNED CAREER LED LIEUTENANT COLONEL HOWARD TO AUBURN HIGH SCHOOL WHERE HE TOLD STUDENTS HIS STORY.

STUDENTS ARE INTERVIEWING VETERANS WHO SERVED IN THE PAST 25 YEARS FROM DESERT STORM TO THE CURRENT WAR ON TERROR.

IT GIVES THE STUDENTS THE CHANCE TO BECOME HISTORIANS AND RECOGNIZE THE SACRIFICE OF SOLDIERS.

RETT WAGGONER IS ONE OF THOSE HISTORIANS.

"It was really eye-opening just to hear his experiences and to hear a first-hand input as to why all the things we hear on the news happen. We hear the big picture, but we never hear the stories, the details, the stuff that only he knows."

"Both the students and veterans participating in the project say it will leave a lasting impact on their lives."

"It makes me want to study more. It makes me want to do more things that are big like that. If we can do something like this when we're 11th graders, in the future, who knows what we can do?"

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

9/21 Auburn Clown Report -

THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF CLOWN SIGHTINGS ACROSS THE SOUTHEAST.

MONDAY NIGHT, AUBURN POLICE RECEIVED REPORTS OF PEOPLE DRESSED AS CLOWNS ON CAMPUS.

OFFICERS IMMEDIATELY RESPONDED TO THE AREA AND DID NOT FIND ANYONE.

TIENSAE TESHOME IS A JUNIOR AT AUBURN.

"It's weird because I feel like of all the things that we as students should be concerned about, now they are also adding clowns to campus as they say and so everyone is kind of freaking out about that. I don't know if it's true, but it does seem a little extreme."

J-J JACKSON IS ALSO A JUNIOR AT AUBURN.

HEARING ABOUT CLOWNS ON CAMPUS IS SOMETHING HE NEVER IMAGINED.

"It's weird that it keeps popping up all across the state. I really don't know what started this phenomenon, and quite frankly, I just think it's kind of stupid. I don't like that it is causing a threat and people feel threatened by the fact that clowns are around."

"Auburn Police say they know of no legitimate threat to the campus community and they will continue to respond to any reports of suspicious activity."

WE SPOKE WITH AUBURN POLICE.

THEY SAID THERE WERE NEVER ANY ACCUSATIONS OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY OR THREATENING BEHAVIOR.

THEY ADD THAT WEARING A MASK DOES NOT WARRANT A CRIME, BUT WHAT DOES CREATE A PROBLEM IS USING THE MASK TO FACILITATE A CRIME OR TO CREATE A HAZARDOUS SITUATION.

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

9/21 CCSSC Nasa Grant -

THE COCA COLA SPACE SCIENCE CENTER IS ONE OF FOUR PARTNERSHIPS AWARDED MORE THAN ONE MILLION DOLLARS FROM NASA.

THE GRANT WILL BE USED TO TEACH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HOW TO DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE CARS THAT COULD EXPLORE MARS.

11- YEAR OLD DARIANNA BRUMIDGE ALREADY HAS HER EYES SET ON BEING PART OF THE PROGRAM.

"I'm really interested in science careers and I really want to work at NASA."

SHAWN CRUZEN IS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SPACE SCIENCE CENTER. HE ENCOURAGES CHILDREN TO PURSUE STEM CAREERS AND THIS GRANT WILL HELP HIM DO THAT.

"The projects designed to teach a future generation of students how to build both helicopters and land rovers that can operate on the surface of mars."

THE GRANT IS DIVIDED INTO FOUR PARTS.

THE COCA COLA SCIENCE CENTER WILL RECEIVE 1150-THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR ITS PROGRAM.

25 MUSCOGEE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL BE SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COURSES.

"Teaching those courses on site here. So there's the monetary value, but also there's also this collaboration with Georgia Tech."

NOT ONLY DOES THIS BUILD STRONG PARTNERSHIPS IT CAN HELP SHAPE THE LIVES OF OUR FUTURE LEADERS.

"Scientists, explorers, engineers and technicians. We want to get them interested in these fields early and show them how much fun it can be. Not only to learn about those technologies, but to use those technologies to explore outer space."

AND PERHAPS LAUNCH NEW CAREERS AT NASA.
ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

9/22 Psychology Behind Protest -

"They don't listen to us. You have to group up and say it in one group, so the bigger the group the bigger the voice."

"Police car and setting fires and getting the cargo out of the eighteen wheelers and setting them on fire in the middle of the interstate, that causes more problems."

"When people actually riot they listen, but they're listening to the wrong things."

DOCTOR FLORENCE WAKOKO-STUDSTILL, A SOCIOLOGY PROFESSOR AT COLUMBUS STATE, BELIEVES THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY IS LETTING OUT FRUSTRATION THAT'S BUILT UP FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS.

"The history of people trying and working so hard just to make ends meet, but at the same time the history of oppression and how particularly with African Americans and other minorities."

STUDSTILL BELIEVES THE PROTESTS ARE PART OF A CYCLE OF EVENTS.
PROTESTING HAS BEEN USED FOR MANY YEARS, AS A WAY FOR THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES.

"The question is are the black men who are rioting, rioting because they belong to this particular group or they're just rioting without a reason? That's not true."

SUDSTILL KNOWS IT'S EASY TO GET WRAPPED UP IN THE HEAT OF THE MOMENT, AND BELIEVES PROTESTORS SHOULD FIGHT THIS BATTLE IN THE COURTS AND NOT ON THE STREETS.

"Use reasoning and say let's change the laws of the land and let's hold people accountable according to the law and follow through. This country is very good at that." 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

9/22 Vietnam Veterans Recognized -

{NATS 2 SECONDS- FORWARD MARCH}

THE COLORS WERE POSTED...

THE ANTHEM WAS SUNG...

{NATS 10- AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE}

A SOLEMN CEREMONY TO RECOGNIZE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIETNAM WAR,
BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, ONE TO GIVE VETERANS THE THANK YOU THEY NEVER RECEIVED.

"it was if I had went over and killed the whole Vietnam War or something by myself."

"Some of the people who were protesting us actually spit on us when we came back and they threw eggs on us."

WHILE 200 VETERANS WERE REMEMBERED IN PERSON... COUNTLESS OTHERS WERE THERE IN SPIRIT.

{NATS- 6 seconds "We're still praying for them, and we hope they have eternal life wherever they are and we will always remember them. Always."

THOSE PRESENT RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE WITH THE PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE AND WITH A PIN.

AND MORE IMPORTANTLY A HANDSHAKE AND A LEGACY.

"It gives my grandkids, my kids a better look at me. Hey, my granddaddy served in the Army. He served in Vietnam. When they open their book and start to talk about Vietnam, they can raise their hands and be proud to say that my grandfather was there."

A LEGACY OF SACRIFICE, DUTY, AND HONOR.

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

9/23 POW Experience Exhibition -

THE NATIONAL CIVIL WAR NAVAL MUSEUM HAS A TRAVELING PRISONERS OF WAR EXHIBIT.

I SPOKE WITH SEVERAL ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEN TO GET THEIR REACTION FROM THE MUSEUM.

"It's a very powerful exhibit and it's certainly important for people to understand what members of the military go through when they get captured and the types of environments that they have to survive in."

"It's somber because of the nature of what it deals with and I would say that it's thought provoking because it gives an insight into things that took place in the past."

HOLLY WAIT, THE MUSEUM'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SAYS THEY'RE ALWAYS LOOKING

FOR NEW WAYS TO GET PEOPLE INTO THE MUSEUM.

VISITORS SHOULD EXPECT TO SEE NEW THINGS EACH TIME.

"Today we're bringing in traveling exhibits and this is the second one that we've had this year."

"As you can see behind me this traveling exhibit gives people the opportunity to listen to POW's stories from World War II."

WAIT SAYS THE P-O-W EXHIBITION TELLS THE STORY OF SOLDIERS DATING BACK TO THE LATE 1700'S.

"Although this exhibit covers the time frame from the American Revolution through today, it also focuses on the Civil War and the prisoner of war camp at Andersonville."

MEANWHILE, ADAM TWITCHEL, A MAJOR IN THE U-S AIRFORCE SAYS exhibits LIKE THIS ARE CRUCIAL.

"The hardships that any of them went through, but I definitely honor their service and their ability to return with honor. Thank you there really are no words."

THANKING OUR MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE SERVED OUR COUNTRY.
ON YOUR SIDE IN COLUMBUS, ASHLEY LEWIS, W-R-B-L NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

9/27 Day After Debate Reax -

"How we got to this is the two we chose between, I don't know. And that's what I hear a lot from all my friends, like, how is this what we have to choose from."

JERI WIEGEL AND HER FRIENDS DISCUSSED THE FIRST PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE OVER THEIR MID-MORNING CUP OF COFFEE IN DOWNTOWN COLUMBUS.

TO SAY THEY WERE NOT IMPRESSED BY EITHER CANDIDATE IS NO UNDERSTATEMENT.

"Let's vote tomorrow. I don't think anybody's going to change their mind at this point. People know what they feel and who they are supporting. It would be nice if we could just get this over with so we could all move on?"

NOT EVERYONE IS READY TO MOVE ON.

THIS COLUMBUS LADY-- WHO AGREED TO SHARE HER VIEWS-- BUT NOT HER NAME-- FOUND VALUE IN MONDAY'S TRUMP/CLINTON SHOWDOWN.

"I thought it was a really good debate. I think the American people got a little bit of glimpse of what to expect for the future debates."

BUT TODAY, MANY ARE ASKING . . . IS THERE A CLEAR WINNER?

"So I don't think one, Trump or Clinton, clearly, simply owned the debate scene last night."

DR. FREDERIC GORDON OF COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY BELIEVES EACH CANDIDATE WALKS AWAY WITH WEAKNESSES EXPOSED.

HE SAYS FOR TRUMP- IT WAS SOME OF HIS SOCIAL POLICIES, TAX STRUCTURES-- FOR CLINTON, EMAIL ISSUES AND SECURITY CONCERNS.

DR. GORDON FEELS THEY BOTH NEED TO BE MORE SPECIFIC ON THEIR FOREIGN POLICY.

"It never was clear about really about what should be done in addressing ISIS and other dangerous forces" 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

ECONOMY :

7/5 Barbasol Champ Economy Impact -

RICK YOCKACHONIS IS THE OWNER AND HEAD CHEF OF MA-FIA'S IN DOWNTOWN OPELIKA.

HE SAYS BUSINESS HAS BEEN GREAT, BUT THE FIRST YEAR OF THE BARBASOL CHAMPIONSHIP MEANT A SPIKE IN BUSINESS... 30 PERCENT WORTH.

"We were very excited that the Barbasol came because the national attention it brings and the clientele it brings is also the people that appeal to the food we serve here. Business influx was great that weekend and we're excited for it coming this weekend.">

THE TOURNAMENT IS SLATED TO BRING MORE THAN 20 MILLION DOLLARS TO THE AREA ECONOMY.

ACCORDING TO THE AUBURN-OPELIKA TOURISM BUREAU MORE THAN 35-THOUSAND PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND.

LAST YEAR'S EVENT SAW MORE THAN 12-HUNDRED AREA HOTEL ROOMS BOOKED, WHICH WAS A 22 PERCENT INCREASE OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

AND AN AVERAGE RATE INCREASE OF 14 PERCENT.

THE SAME RESULTS ARE EXPECTED THIS YEAR.

"This is the second year the tournament is being held in Opelika, and locals hope the tournament will be a hole-in-one for the future."

OPELIKA MAYOR GARY FULLER SAYS THE TOURNAMENT PROVIDES ANOTHER GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR AUBURN AND OPELIKA TO WORK TOGETHER TO GIVE VISITORS A GREAT TIME AND GIVE THE AREA SOME INTERNATIONAL EXPOSURE.

"It gives us a great opportunity to extend the hand of friendship to folks from different parts of the world, different parts of the country and to show them what it's like to be down south in the summertime."

ON YOUR SIDE IN AUBURN AND OPELIKA, ALEX DERENCZ, W-R-B-L NEWS THREE.
6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

7/11 Auburn Dean On Hunger -

JUNE HENTON HAS WORKED AT AUBURN UNIVERSITY FOR 30 YEARS.

SHE SAYS GLOBAL HUNGER IS THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE IN THE EFFORT TO BECOME A SUSTAINABLE WORLD.

"People who are suffering, it's a health issue. It's an education issue. It's a workforce issue. The need for people to be well-nourished is so important for a healthy society and a good quality of life."

THE GOOD NEWS, ACCORDING TO HENTON, IS THAT WORLD HUNGER IS A SOLVABLE ISSUE.

ACCORDING TO HENTON, THERE IS ENOUGH FOOD IN THE WORLD TO FEED THOSE WHO ARE HUNGRY.

IT'S ONLY CERTAIN ISSUES LIKE WAR AND FLOODS THAT CAN KEEP FOOD FROM BEING DISTRIBUTED.

IN ORDER TO SOLVE THE ISSUES, PEOPLE FROM ALL PARTS OF SOCIETY NEED TO PREPARE THE NEXT GENERATION.

"We know that it's a moral issue for a lot of people. We feel like there is just something wrong with our society where we have so many people who are suffering, and it's sort of an issue of the haves and have nots, and that leads to national security issues that come out of that."

"Dean Henton says she can't put an exact date on when global hunger will be solved, but says when it is solved, this world will be a much better place."

"Everybody, regardless of race, religion, ethnic group, whatever, will have an opportunity to be fulfilled, to have a better quality of life and we hope have a sustainable world."

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

7/28 Cheers On The Corner -

ERIC STAMP IS THE OWNER OF 'STAMP'.

A BUSINESS THAT PRINTS CUSTOM ITEMS AS WELL AS SELLING ANYTHING AUBURN.

HIS STORE HAS BEEN OPEN FOR 17 YEARS.

EVENTS LIKE 'CHEERS ON THE CORNER' GET HIS STAMP OF APPROVAL.

"Events are always good for business. Anything that draws people downtown, gets people in the store, we sell more product. If I even break even, and we have fun, my employees have fun and the event's successful then we're a success."

A SUCCESS IS WHAT THE CITY IS HOPING FOR.

THIS IS THE FIRST YEAR THE EVENT WILL BE HELD.

IT ALLOWS PEOPLE TO TASTE THE FLAVORS OF DOWNTOWN RESTAURANTS AND BARS, AND HOPEFULLY HAVE THEM WANTING MORE.

ROBYN BRIDGES WITH AUBURN OPELIKA TOURISM BUREAU SAYS TOURISM PUMPS NEARLY 400 MILLION DOLLARS INTO THE AREA ECONOMY EACH YEAR.

"Everybody likes to do something they can't do at home. So, even if you are coming for a different reason, having that event going on in the area it could entice you to stay an extra night or give you a reason to come back."

"Due to the expected crowds and alcohol being served at the event, Auburn Police will have additional officers here, downtown to ensure the event runs smoothly."

DOWNTOWN WILL BE AN ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT FOR THE EVENT.

ALLOWING OPEN CONTAINERS OF ALCOHOL IN THE STREET.

AUBURN POLICE CHIEF PAUL REGISTER WANTS PEOPLE TO HAVE FUN, BUT ALSO BE RESPONSIBLE.

A HIGH VOLUME OF PEOPLE WILL ALSO BRING A HIGH VOLUME OF TAX REVENUE.

LAST YEAR, DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES BROUGHT IN NEARLY FOUR MILLION DOLLARS IN TAX REVENUE FOR THE CITY.

AS FOR STAMP, HE LOVES TO SEE THE CUSTOMERS COME IN, BUT FRIDAY IS ALL ABOUT ONE THING.

"Fun is the key. Not in it totally for the money."

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

7/29 Army Reduction -

TONIGHT WE'RE DIGGING DEEPER INTO THE ARMY PERSONNEL REDUCTIONS OCCURRING AT FORT BENNING.

WE HAVE RESULTS FROM A RESEARCH GROUP THAT CAME UP WITH RESULTS OF THE DRAWDOWN-FOLLOWING A SIX-MONTH STUDY.

TODAY, MATRIX DESIGN GROUP PRESENTED THE LAST PORTION OF THEIR THREE-PART STUDY -- LOOKING INTO THE EFFECTS OF TROOP REDUCTIONS ON THE AREA.

FORT BENNING'S PERSONNEL WAS REDUCED BY ABOUT 28 HUNDRED PEOPLE DUE TO SEQUESTRATION.

SAL NODJOMIAN WITH MATRIX DESIGN GROUP HEADED UP THE STUDY. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/2 Medicaid Cut In East Al -

"A lot of our patients feel powerless."

PEDIATRICIAN ERIC TYLER SAYS MOST OF HIS PATIENTS DEPEND ON MEDICAID FOR TREATMENT.

"I think that they view this more along the lines of it's just another situation where nobody seems to care."

DOCTOR KIM OWENS BELIEVES EVERYONE SHOULD CARE ABOUT STATEWIDE MEDICAID CUTS, BECAUSE EVERYONE COULD FEEL THE EFFECTS.

"If physicians are forced to downsize their practices, lay off staff, and in some situations, close their practices, this will mean less access to care for every Alabamian."

Greg Nichols, an administrator here at the East Alabama Medical Center in Opelika, says it could take months for patients to feel the effects of Medicaid cuts."

GOVERNOR ROBERT BENTLEY PROPOSED A STATE LOTTERY THAT WOULD BRING IN 225-MILLION DOLLARS TO REFILL THE MEDICAID BUDGET.

"It seems like an easy fix. But I think most states have proven that over a period of time, there's still issues with a lottery."

THERE'S ALSO THE 75-MILLION DOLLARS ALABAMA POCKETED FROM THE B-P OIL SPILL PAYOUT.

BUT MEDICAID MUST COMPETE FOR FUNDING WITH DAMAGED INFRASTRUCTURE FROM THAT SPILL, AS WELL AS THE STATE'S CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM.

HOWEVER, WITHOUT A SOLUTION...

There are obvious, undesirable decisions that must be made. And who will suffer the most? Our patients."

NICHOLS EXPECTS LONGER WAIT TIMES AMONG OTHER PROBLEMS, AS PATIENTS LEAVE PRIVATE PRACTICES IN FAVOR OF HOSPITALS.

"Anyone that comes in our emergency room, we're going to take care of. Whether they pay or not, that's not going to change."

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

8/11 Youth Crime Rate In Columbus -

AFTER THE LAST BELL OF THE DAY, MANY AREA STUDENTS HEAD HOME TO A WARM MEAL AND A HAPPY HOME.

HOWEVER...SOME KIDS AREN'T SO LUCKY...AND THE EFFECTS OF THIS DEFICIT CAN BE DEADLY.

"I just wasn't thinking straight and just didn't care."

AUSTIN PRICE IS ONE YOUNG MAN WHO SAYS HIS LIFE WENT SOUTH BECAUSE OF A DYSFUNCTIONAL HOME LIFE.

AFTER A VIOLENT ARGUMENT WITH HIS YOUNGER BROTHERS BACK HOME IN FAYETTE, ALABAMA, PRICE WAS SENT TO A GROUP HOME IN PHENIX CITY KNOWN AS "TEEN UNIVERSITY NEW LIFE CENTER FOR CHANGE," A MOVE THAT HE SAYS SAVED HIS LIFE.

"I could be in jail, I could be dead on the streets, I could be so many other worse places than this."

AT TEEN UNIVERSITY, UP TO 47 AT-RISK YOUNG MEN HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR OWN PRIVATE, COMFORTABLE SPACE AND AMENITIES, A MUCH BETTER OPTION THAN THE ALTERNATIVE--A COLD JAIL CELL BEHIND METAL BARS.

ACCORDING TO THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE...THE NUMBER OF TEENS COMMITTED THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE INCREASED 40% FROM 2010 TO 2014.

AND SO FAR THIS YEAR, 8 OF 13 HOMICIDE VICTIMS HAVE BEEN UNDER THE AGE OF 25.

JUVENILE JUSTICE JUDGE WARREN KENNON EXPLAINS WHAT HE'S OBSERVED DURING HIS TIME ON THE BENCH..

"It's not just a Columbus phenomenon or a Georgia phenomenon, but really a national phenomenon, and that is that we are seeing sadly younger and more serious offenses."

RICK SMITH, THE DIRECTOR OF TEEN UNIVERSITY, SAYS THE HIKE IN THESE YOUTH CRIME RATES CAN BE BLAMED ON PARENTAL NEGLECT IN THE HOME.

"When we don't spend the quality time that we have to spend with our children, then they will get their education and they will get their mindset from outside sources."

TEEN UNIVERSITY ISN'T THE ONLY ORGANIZATION TRYING TO TURN THESE NUMBERS AROUND.

RODNEY CLOSE, CEO OF THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF THE CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY SAYS THEIR MISSION IS TO GET KIDS TO FOCUS ON LIFE'S BIGGER PICTURE THROUGH THEIR AFTER-SCHOOL AND SUMMER PROGRAMS.

"I think it starts with educating our youth around the possibilities that are down the road for them. What today may not be possible may be possible in the future."

TEARS INC. IN PHENIX CITY PROVIDES SIMILAR SERVICES. THE DIRECTOR THERE, MARIE SLAYTON, BELIEVES LOW SELF-ESTEEM ALSO LEADS TEENS TO DELINQUENCY.

"If I don't feel good about myself I'm not gonna feel good about you, and if I don't feel good about myself I'm gonna treat myself wrong, I'm gonna allow other people to misuse me, to mistreat me, and I will do the same for others."

REGARDLESS OF THE CAUSE, ALL OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO KEEP YOUTH IN THE COMMUNITY ON THE RIGHT PATH.

AND FOR AUSTIN, THEIR BEST HAS BEEN MORE THAN GOOD ENOUGH.

"I needed to be a better me, and they've done it." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/17 New Shopping Center -

"The Blackmon Village Center began construction in February. They are still working on the first building which will be a two-million dollar project."

BEN BILLINGS, THE DEVELOPER FOR THE BLACKMON VILLAGE CENTER , HAS CREATED MULTIPLE SHOPPING CENTERS IN THE VALLEY.

THIS TIME HE WANTS TO INCORPORATE THE SMALLER MOM AND POPS STORES AT THE BLACKMON VILLAGE CENTER.

"We see the worlds kind of revolving back from the super stores to smaller shops, like things we used to have 40 years ago and that's what we intend to offer here. A little bit of everything different."

BILLINGS SAYS IT'S IMPORTANT TO MAKE SURE THE STORES IN THE SHOPPING CENTER SPECIALIZE IN DIFFERENT AREAS, SO THAT THEY AREN'T COMPETING WITH EACH OTHER.

"People are getting tired of having to walk across a 200-thousand square foot building to get milk in one corner and Tums in the other. "

BILLINGS TELLS US WHICH STORES WILL BE IN THE FIRST COMPLETED BUILDING.

"SunTrust ATM, Blimpies Sub Shop, Cuts by US, Posh Nails and Spa, and we have Midland Beverage Package Store."

ONCE COMPLETED, BILLINGS SAYS THE SHOPPING CENTER WILL BRING IN 300 TO 400 NEW JOBS.

BILL MURPHY, THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT THE COLUMBUS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SAYS SHOPPING CENTERS LIKE THIS HAVE A POWERFUL IMPACT ON THE LOCAL ECONOMY.

"More people are going back to work, we see our unemployment rate drop. With more people working there's more demand for services and products and people are shopping for goods and our local retailers are finally starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel."

"There are a total of eight new buildings that will be at the Blackmon Village Center. They are expecting to complete the first building by October first. These eight buildings will represent a 12 to 15 million dollar cost in development. On your side in Columbus, Ashley Lewis, W-R-B-L News 3." **6pm PKG 1:30, 11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/24 Business Back Out Mail -

ANDRE JAMES AND TRAVIS SHIRLEY LOVE SHOPPING AT THE PEACHTREE MALL. THEY BOTH SAY MACY'S IS ONE OF THEIR FAVORITE STORES.

"I came to the mall today to go shopping and I usually do a lot of shopping at Macy's because they have a lot of good back to school sales."

ALTHOUGH SOME PEOPLE ARE AFRAID TO SHOP AT THE MALL BECAUSE OF RECENT SHOOTINGS, SHIRLEY SAYS THAT WON'T STOP HIM.

"Where I come from there's a lot of that going on and it really hasn't stopped me from coming up here to shop. I'll still come up here as much as I would of."

BILL MURPHY THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT THE COLUMBUS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SAYS THE PEACHTREE MALL GENERATES A LOT OF SALES TAX FOR OUR LOCAL ECONOMY.

"There also big property tax payers which has significant impact on our city and school budgets and so obviously we want to make sure that we're doing everything we can to help them do their job and find the right retailers that look for a mall environment."

MEANWHILE JAMES SAYS HE MAY NOT SHOP AT THE PEACHTREE MALL IF MACYS CLOSES.

"I would think a lot less people would stop shopping here." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/29 DUI Enforcement Campaign -

"Everybody talked about her beauty . . . Her outside beauty, but she was a beautiful person inside more."

LISA GILMER'S DAUGHTER, 16 YEAR OLD HANNAH, WAS KILLED IN JUNE 20-12 WHEN THE CAR IN WHICH SHE WAS RIDING CRASHED INTO AN EMBANKMENT, FLIPPED SEVERAL TIMES, AND EJECTED HER THROUGH THE SUNROOF.

IT HAPPENED AT THE HANDS OF A DRUNK DRIVER.
THE PAIN NEVER GETS EASIER FOR HER FAMILY.

"We have a life sentence, a life without Hannah, Hannah received a death sentence, and we will not have parole ever for her death."

"Any automobile is a potentially deadly weapon, but add alcohol to that mix, and they become even more lethal. No one understands that better than people who have lost loved ones to drunk drivers."

"It's important for me to get that message out there that this behavior is unacceptable, and it also honors the life of my friend."

TARA ROTTHOFF WILL NEVER FORGET AUGUST 14, 19-92.

IT'S THE DAY HER FRIEND SAM WAS STRUCK AND KILLED AND BY A DRUNK DRIVER.

SAM'S DEATH MOTIVATED HER TO VOLUNTEER FOR MADD.

"If the loss of Sam's life can remind one person either to not drink and drive or to be mindful of motorcyclists or bicyclists, he was bicyclist, on the road, that is going to be a tremendous savings."

"If you're driving, and you're drinking, you know, it's not worth the consequences of either taking a life, or ending your life, or ending up in prison."

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

9/1 Economic Impact Of Football -

TREY JOHNSTON AND THE J AND M CREW HAVE BEEN PREPARING FOR THE SEASON JUST LIKE THE AUBURN FOOTBALL TEAM.

INSTEAD OF RUNNING DRILLS, THEY ARE STOCKING UP THEIR SUPPLIES.

DUE TO THE CHANGE IN COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS, AUBURN MERCHANDISE DRIVES THEIR STORES.

"September, October, November, December. You have a great December if your team is in a good bowl and has had a decent year. There's four or five months when you have to get the hay in the barn so to speak."

ALL THE HARD WORK PAYS OFF AS JOHNSTON SAYS BUSINESS INCREASES TEN-FOLD AND MORE DURING THE SEASON.

SARAH BROWN IS WITH WRAPSODY JUST DOWN THE STREET.

SHE SAYS BUSINESS, DOUBLES, TRIPLES OR MORE DURING THE SEASON.

BROWN SAYS THE SEASON IS LIKE CHRISTMAS FOR THE AREA.

"It's crucial. It's vital. We thrive on it. It's fun. It's why we're here in Downtown Auburn because the camaraderie of the town itself, but football season happens to be a dynamic part of it."

IN 20-15, THE CITY AVERAGED THREE MILLION DOLLARS A MONTH IN SALES TAX REVENUE.

THEY SAY DURING FOOTBALL SEASON, IT INCREASES AT LEAST 15 PERCENT.

"While touchdowns will be scored at Jordan-Hare this season, area hotels are hoping to also win big."

LAST SEASON, HOTELS BROUGHT IN NEARLY SIX AND A HALF MILLION DOLLARS IN REVENUE.

THE AUBURN-OPELIKA TOURISM BUREAU SAYS FOOTBALL SEASON BRINGS IN REVENUE FROM ALL AVENUES.

"Even though we say it's only say it's seven or eight weekends a year, and there are a lot of conferences and other events that happen during the fall, football is when all the cylinders are firing."

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

9/5 Holiday Economic Impact -

NORMALLY, THESE PARKING MACHINES ARE USED IN DOWNTOWN AUBURN.

TODAY, THEY ARE NOT IN ORDER.

THE CITY ALLOWS FREE PARKING ON SEVERAL OCCASSIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR TO PROMOTE SHOPPING, EATING AND MORE IN DOWNTOWN.

DAVID THORNE IS AN AUBURN STUDENT, HE SAYS THE FREE PARKING MAKES DOWNTOWN EVEN MORE ATTRACTIVE,

AND IS ONE LESS THING TO WORRY ABOUT.

"It's something you don't have worry about, searching through the car looking for a quarter or having to worry about finding a parking spot because sometimes, that's a problem too, actually finding a parking spot."

"Not only do the locals like not having to use machines like this one, business owners also enjoy it."

JENNIFER COOPER IS THE OWNER OF GIGI'S CUPCAKES IN DOWNTOWN.

COOPER SAYS THEY HAVE BEEN LOCATED IN DOWNTOWN AUBURN FOR ALMOST FIVE YEARS.

THIS THE FIRST TIME THEY'VE BEEN OPEN ON LABOR DAY.

COOPER SAYS IF YOU CAN COVER YOUR COSTS AND LABOR, THEN OPENING ON LABOR DAY IS WORTH IT.

SHE ADDS, SHE HOPES IT HELPS BRING IN THOSE WHO MAY BE HESITANT TO COME DOWNTOWN.

"Anything we can do to draw business and to get people down here, we're going to be supportive of. Anything that is going to increase our foot traffic we're going to be behind and enjoy."

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

9/8 Additional Auburn Officers -

BREE CARTER IS A JUNIOR AT AUBURN.

SHE IS ALSO A RESIDENT ASSISTANT ON CAMPUS.

FOR HER AND HER RESIDENTS, SAFETY IS A TOP PRIORITY.

"I live with 210 residents, so with 210 people, you want to keep everyone safe at all times. But, 210 people can get a little rowdy sometimes, but you've gotta make sure everyone is safe and keep tabs on everyone."

CARTER FEELS SAFE IN AUBURN DUE TO THE POLICE PRESENCE ON CAMPUS AND IN THE CITY.

AND THAT SAFETY BLANKET WILL GROW AS MORE OFFICERS ARE ADDED TO THE FORCE.

BY THE END OF 20-17, FOUR OFFICERS WILL BE ADDED THROUGHOUT THE CITY

AND 15 WILL BE ADDED TO CAMPUS.

THREE MORE WILL BE ADDED TO THE CITY BY THE END OF 20-18.

"The city says the added officers both on campus and the city is all about increasing visibility."

PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR BILL JAMES SAYS THEY WANT TO INCREASE THEIR PRESENCE ON CAMPUS.

WHILE MAINTAINING AN OFFICER ON EACH BEAT OF THE CITY.

HE ADDS THE INCREASED PRESENCE IS A PROACTIVE APPROACH.

"We want to stay ahead of any crime that might try to come to the city. So, this is more a proactive approach on our part. If we have some more officers, then we continue to keep our crime rates low and address any concerns the citizens have."

"The more safety we have, the safer the campus is. Personally, I feel safer as will my residents. From a professional standpoint, I feel safer in my role as an RA when I have backup that is the police."

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

9/9 Columbus Housing Update -

CHRISTOPHER HARPER ADMITS MOVING IS NO FUN. HE'S BEEN AT NICHOLSON BROWN TERRACE JUST OVER SEVEN MONTHS. THE RENT AND LOCATION SUITED HIM PERFECTEDLY.

"The only thing I don't like about moving here is I waited three years to get in here, a little over three years, I got here, and now I got to move, and I don't like moving."

THE COLUMBUS HOUSING AUTHORITY SAYS, HOWEVER, IT'S ALL A PART OF GROWING PAINS.

"The Housing Authority tells us that the renovations beginning here at Brown Nicholson Terrace are part of a bigger project renovating four sites throughout the city which will modernize 583 units, costing a grand total of \$25 million dollars."

MODERNIZING MEANS UPGRADES TO BATHROOMS, INSTALLATION OF ENERGY EFFICIENT APPLIANCES, WINDOWS, DOORS, AND UPGRADES TO COMMUNITY AREAS SUCH AS COMPUTER LABS AND LAUNDRY FACILITIES.

ACCORDING TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY, IT'S ALL AN EFFORT TO PROTECT THE AGENCY'S INVESTMENT IN ITS PROPERTIES AND KEEP THEM HEALTHY AND SAFE ENVIRONMENTS FOR THEIR TENANTS.

"A lot of people here are fussing and arguing and stuff about going to motels and different places and putting their stuff in storage."

FOR THE SHORT TERM, UNFORTUNATELY, IT'S AN INCONVENIENCE FOR TENANTS-- BUT THE HOUSING AUTHORITY SAYS IT IS RELOCATING THEM, NOT TURNING ANYONE AWAY FROM AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

"The only thing I think they are doing right is by redoing it. You know, they are going to re-do everything here and make it and supposed to make it better and everything."

EVEN THOUGH IT'S AN INCONVENIENCE, HARPER ADMITS THE UPGRADED FACILITIES WILL BE APPRECIATED.

HE SAYS, HOWEVER, HE HAS FOUND OTHER HOUSING NOW OUTSIDE THE HOUSING AUTHORITY PROPERTIES SO HE CAN REMAIN IN A NEIGHBORHOOD CLOSE TO HIS DOCTORS.

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

9/12 Liberty Bus Comes To Auburn -

THIS MAY LOOK LIKE AN ORDINARY BUS.

BUT, IT BELONGS TO A SPECIAL PERSON.

LIBBY LIBERTY, ALSO KNOWN AS THE STATUE OF LIBERTY.

SHE IS IN AUBURN TO KICK OFF THE SUPER CITIZEN PROGRAM, A 10-WEEK PROGRAM DEDICATED TO PREPARING STUDENTS TO BECOME THE NEXT GREAT AMERICANS.

"It's super sweet to see how a character like this can come to life for them and give them what they would think are adult lessons on their level and really impact them. It makes them feel like they are not trapped in maybe the story they've been born into. They can jump out of that and make a difference in their community."

OVER THE NEXT TEN WEEKS, THE THIRD GRADERS IN AUBURN CITY SCHOOLS WILL LEARN HOW TO BE GOOD CITIZENS, WHAT PATRIOTISM IS AND WHAT A HERO IS.

WES GORDON IS THE DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM FOR AUBURN CITY SCHOOLS.

HE SAYS THESE TOPICS NEED TO BE TAUGHT, AND THIS PROGRAM IS A PROACTIVE WAY TO DO THAT.

"These kids weren't alive with 9-11. They weren't alive during the civil rights movement. So, what can we do to help them remember great things that need to be learned? This is the kind of program we hope will be memorable so that as third graders they will remember it when they're fifth graders, ninth graders, seniors, 22 year olds, parents in our school system and parents in other communities in the state."

"The students who attended today's presentation say it's impact will be felt well after this bus pulls away."

"I'm pretty proud to know we have independence and freedom. It really inspires me to hear all the things about being a good citizen."

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

ENVIRONMENTAL/ LAND USE/ SPRAWL:

7/15 White Water Rescue Drill -

"I go kayaking almost everyday because it's great to get out in the waves and nature."

NATHAN ARNESEN'S LOVE FOR WATER IS WHAT BRINGS HIM TO THE RIVER WALK EVERYDAY.

"I just always been a water person. I love being in the water and I have since I was little and it's just natural to me."

MORE THAN 30,000 PEOPLE VISIT THE CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER TO KAYAK OR WHITE WATER RAFT.

WILL CHAMBLISS, THE OPERATIONS MANAGER AT WHITE WATER EXPRESS SAYS IT'S IMPORTANT TO PREPARE FOR THE UNEXPECTED.

"During the spring we saw how big the water can get at the surrounding creeks and rivers because they swell. Making it a dangerous situation to get in and out of."

FORT BENNING ALONG WITH COLUMBUS FIRE AND EMS CONDUCTED A SWIFT WATER RESCUE, IN THE EVENT THAT THERE IS AN AN EMERGENCY.

"Back injuries on our river or something that is serious engrave that needs to be dealt with even faster than we can get to. Drownings you want to stabilize on the river so that you could get them to another location."

CHAMBLISS URGES EVERYONE TO WEAR LIFE VESTS IN THE RIVER AND TO TAKE THESE SAFTEY PRECATUIONS SERIOUSLY.

"Please wear pfd's that's the biggest thing right there. Helmets are very useful and great for children and if you're going to be engaging in white water activities."

MEANWHILE, ARNESEN SAYS HE'S HAPPY OUR LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS ARE STEPPING IN TO ENSURE OUR SAFETY.

"This river is a lot safer compared to most other rivers. It's a good spot for the whole family and a great time all in all."

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

7/19 Storm Damage -

"Well it came up so fast it was kind of scary."

GARY GRIFFIN LIVES ON THE 8TH FLOOR OF NICHOLSON TERRACE APARTMENTS. SO WHEN A STRONG THUNDERSTORM BLEW THROUGH TOWN, GRIFFIN TOOK COVER.

"I started hearing loud noises and the wind was blowing like crazy. And it was blowing my screen door."

BUT GRIFFIN ISN'T ALONE IN HIS STRUGGLE.

"7 that I know of, right within five minutes of here."

ROY PARKER IS AN INSURANCE CLAIMS ADJUSTER. HE SURVEYS STORM DAMAGE.

AND EVEN THOUGH THE DEBRIS IS SPREAD AROUND A CONCENTRATED AREA...

"There's a lot of damage to a lot of houses, but it doesn't look like anything severe at this point. BUT THERE HAVE BEEN A LOT OF CLOSE CALLS.

"This is very unusual that we get this many claims."

LIMBS LOCKING DOWN TRAFFIC, POWER POLLS BLOCKING THE ROADS... ROBERT WATKINS WITH GEORGIA POWER SAYS THESE ARE STUMBLING BLOCKS IN GETTING PEOPLE'S POWER BACK ON.

"It does make it kind of congested to work. But the crews are starting to really gain ground now."

BY GAINING GROUND, GEORGIA POWER CREWS FROM MILES AROUND, AS WELL AS CITY CREWS, CAN CLEAN UP AND LIGHT UP HOMES AGAIN.

AND THAT MAKES GARY GRIFFIN A LITTLE MORE SATISFIED.

"We were lucky. If it had been about 25-30 yards this way, we'd have gotten high force winds into our building and it would have done serious damage." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

7/20 New Auburn Apt Complex -

CITY COUNCILOR BETH WITTEN WANTS TO MAKE THE BEST DECISION FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN AUBURN.

THAT'S WHY SHE LED THE CHARGE TO HOLD OFF APPROVING 'THE STANDARD'... AN APARTMENT COMPLEX TO BE BUILT ON THE FRINGE OF DOWNTOWN AUBURN.

"It's my job to make the best decision with the information given, and I felt like we could get a lot more information if we just ask for it, and that's why I requested to table. It's not because I am in opposition, it's simply because I felt like we needed additional information."

THAT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS EXPECTED IN EARLY AUGUST.

THE PROJECT IS STILL A-GO, BUT THE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WILL BE THE FINAL STEP BEFORE CONSTRUCTION BEGINS.

THE AGREEMENT OUTLINES THE IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE MADE LIKE SIDEWALKS.

"THE STANDARD' IS ONE OF FIVE STUDENT HOUSING PROJECTS BEING CONSTRUCTED IN DOWNTOWN AUBURN.

"Even though construction projects like this one behind me have been in the works for a while, they've raised concerns for some citizens."

'KEEP AUBURN LOVELY' IS A CITIZENS' GROUP THAT REPRESENTS SOME FOLKS LIVING IN AUBURN.

THEY KNOW THE CITY NEEDS TO GROW BUT THEY WANT GROWTH IN A WAY THAT KEEPS THE CITY'S CHARM AND IDENTITY.

"Otherwise, that sweet caring community and the people that do care will shift. You will bring in other people that have different values, and also too because so much of the decision for recruits is about the small town community and the caring people where they do feel like this is home and family."

FORREST COTTEN, THE CITY'S PLANNING DIRECTOR SAYS REGULATIONS PASSED BY COUNCIL IN MARCH WOULD NOT ALLOW THESE PROJECTS IF PROPOSED TODAY.

ALL STUDENT HOUSING IS BEING TARGETED OUT OF THE DOWNTOWN PROPER AREA... EVEN BEING INCENTIVIZED IN CERTAIN LOCATIONS.

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

7/21 Homeless Man Collect Artifact -

A GROUP OF HOMELESS MEN HUNT THE RIVER WALK EVERYDAY.

JOEY CAMP, ONE OF THE HUNTERS SAYS HE LEARNED HOW TO HUNT FROM HIS DAD.

"When you go out there and hunt this stuff and let's say you pick up a bottle or you pick up an arrowhead..you're picking up somebody's life. Somebody's history, somebody's memories...you're holding that in your hands."

COLUMBUS POLICE OFFICER, MISTY PARISH, WAS PATROLING HER AREA WHEN SHE STUMBLED ACROSS THE 'HOMELESS HUNTERS' LOOKING AT ARTIFACTS.

"I rode by a few weeks ago and I saw some guys cleaning bottles and I was just curious to see what they were doing, so I stopped and spoke with them and I was actually really intrigued with what they had to say."

FELLOW HUNTER WILLIAM JONES WANTS TO KEEP THE WATER CLEAN TO MAKE IT SAFER FOR FAMILIES.

"We don't want anybody's foot getting cut and stuff like that and this is the history and we want more people to come and see about Columbus, Georgia."

"JUST NOW THEY COLLECTED TEN MARBLES WHICH COULD COST MORE THAN A HUNDRED DOLLARS AT AN ANTIQUE STORE."

JOEY HOPES TO BE HIRED BY THE CITY, TO REGULATE WHAT'S IN THE RIVER.

I would like to work with the city and maybe they can give me a job or something. I would like to make the river clean and beautiful like it's supposed to be.

HE AND HIS FRIEND WILLIAM SAY THEIR LOVE FOR HISTORY IS WHAT MOTIVATES THEM TO DIVE IN.

"The native american history here in these waters going all the way back to them and all the way back to the civil war. One of the last greatest battles from the civil war were fought here in these waters."

THE HUNTERS SAY PRESERVING OUR HISTORY IS CRUCIAL BECAUSE IN ORDER TO KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING... YOU MUST KNOW WHERE YOU'VE COME FROM.

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

8/12 Parking Deck Project -

SARAH BROWN IS THE CO-OWNER OF WRAPSODY IN DOWNTOWN AUBURN.

SHE SAYS SHE AND OTHER DOWNTOWN STORE OWNERS WERE DISAPPOINTED WHEN THEY LEARNED THE PARKING DECK PROJECT WAS OFF THE TABLE.

BROWN SAYS IT WOULD HAVE ADDED TO THE DOWNTOWN EXPERIENCE.

"The hotel, the parking, the grocery store, the restaurant, all of that brings viability. It obviously brings more sales tax dollars to downtown. It brings people who are spending their money to the downtown area, and that's what we want."

CITY COUNCIL APPROVED A TERM SHEET ON THE PROJECT BACK IN JANUARY.

AS NEGOTIATIONS WENT ON, THINGS STRAYED AWAY FROM THAT TERM SHEET.

SO, THE CITY CEASED NEGOTIATIONS.

CITY COUNCILOR DICK PHELAN SAYS HE WAS SURPRISED WHEN THE DEAL FELL THROUGH.

THE CITY CURRENTLY HAS 600 PARKING SPACES DOWNTOWN, BUT PHELAN SAYS MORE ARE NEEDED.

"We're getting more people downtown, and when they come to downtown to the commercial establishments, they want to have some place to park that's near where they are going to go. That's the real crux. If we can't develop the parking place, we're going to lose people who want to come and shop at our commercial establishments."

"For some folks here in the city, this project no longer going forward is a blessing in disguise." THAT'S THE SENTIMENT OF KEEP AUBURN LOVELY.

THEY REALIZE THE CITY IS GROWING, BUT THEY WANT IT TO BE DONE IN A WAY TO PRESERVE THE COLLEGE TOWN FEEL.

"You start changing the complexion of the little town, and you start making it like Downtown Atlanta where it's really tall, really congested, with the ensuing traffic jams, you might as well have gone to Georgia Tech."

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

8/17 New Shopping Center -

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"There are a total of eight new buildings that will be at the Blackmon Village Center. They are expecting to complete the first building by October first. These eight buildings will represent a 12 to 15 million dollar cost in development. On your side in Columbus, Ashley Lewis, W-R-B-L News 3." **6pm PKG 1:30, 11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/19 Whitewater Milestone -

JAKE NICHOLS IS ON A COLLEGE TOUR WITH HIS PARENTS.

BEFORE HE LANDED IN THE FOUNTAIN CITY, HE LOOKED UP ALL THE FUN THINGS THEY COULD DO.

WHITE WATER RAFTING WAS FIRST ON HIS LIST.

"We're here visiting Columbus State University and since we're in town we decided why don't we do something fun real quick, so we decided to do white water rafting because we heard it's pretty popular."

PETER BOWDEN, THE PRESIDENT OF THE COLUMBUS CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU HAS DONE EXTENSIVE RESEARCH TO FIND OUT WHY PEOPLE ARE COMING TO THE VALLEY.

"Columbus was an outdoor adventure destination adjacent to an urban core meaning you could have any type of outside experience like white water, but have it inside the city limits so you're not in the wilderness doing these sorts of things."

NICHOLS SAYS HE WANTED TO EXPERIENCE THE UNIQUENESS OF THE RIVER.

"Back in my home town we have a little river and we have a few boats. The four of us get on a boat and we start going down the river and had fun, but it's nothing like this."

WHITE WATER EXPRESS SAYS THEY'VE HAD CUSTOMERS FROM COUNTRIES AS FAR AS HONDURAS AND BRAZIL.

BOWDEN SAYS VISITORS MAKE A HUGE IMPACT TO OUR LOCAL ECONOMY.

"We saw 340-million dollars economic impact by visitors and then we did a study with CSU and they helped us track a 1.9 million visitors coming to this destination."

MEANWHILE NICHOLS CAN'T WAIT TO HIT THE RAFTS.

I hope no one falls out and I don't know we will see, I just hope that we have fun."

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

8/25 CSU Clearview Hall -

"Im here at Columbus State University for the grand opening of their freshman dorm ClearView Hall."

CLAUDIA GAY, A FRESHMAN, IS EXCITED TO LIVE IN CLEARVIEW DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR.

"I really do like it here! It's very relaxing to have to only walk 3 minutes back from classes to where I'm going to sleep because I don't have to worry about driving home."

CHRIS MARKWOOD, THE PRESIDENT AT C-S-U, SAYS 50% OF STUDENTS ARE LOCAL AND 50% ARE OUT OF STATE.

AFTER RESEARCH THEY REALIZED IT WAS CRUCIAL FOR THE UNIVERSITY TO PROVIDE THEIR STUDENTS WITH MORE HOUSING TO IMPROVE THEIR CLASSROOM PERFORMANCE.

"As our university continues to grow we have additional requests and demand for university housing. University housing is also important for students development and learning cycles. We know that students do better when they live on campus."

JIMMY SCOTT THE PORTFOLIO DIRECTOR AT CORVIAS, SAYS THEIR COMPANY INVESTED 15-MILLION DOLLARS IN CLEAR VIEW HALL.

"The nine campuses across the state had existing debt and we diffused that debt for the campuses and it's a partnership."

MARKWOOD, SAYS THE 25 MILLION DOLLAR DORMITORY IS STATE OF THE ART WITH FLAT SCREEN T-V'S , HIGH TECH WASHER AND DRYERS AND SECURITY.

"To get onto a floor you have to have card access, to get into a room you have to have card access. We've taken extra precautions to make sure this a very safe place for our students."

MEANWHILE GAY SAYS SHES EXCITED FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR.

"There's like a bunch of opportunities to make friends, not that I've been to any of the events, but people are definitely getting a long together well."

"More than 457 students live in ClearView Hall. on Friday there will be a smores social so that students can break the ice and get to know each other. On your side in Columbus, Ashley Lewis, W-R-B-L News 3." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

9/7 Train Derailment -

THE CSX TRAIN DERAILED ON THE TRACKS AT BERNON ROAD AND GORDON STREET KNOWN AS LEE'S CROSSING. POLICE SAY THE CONDUCTOR TRIED TO STOP BY APPLYING THE EMERGENCY BRAKES BUT COULD NOT AVOID HITTING THE LAGRANGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WHO WALKED OUT IN FRONT OF THE ONCOMING TRAIN. PEOPLE WHO KNEW THE TEEN DESCRIBED WHAT HE WAS LIKE.

"He was a sweet little kid and the only thing he did was walk up and down the road and sometimes he would stop and play ball with my grandchildren and when he was finished playing ball he would go home. He never harmed anybody or caused any trouble. He was a good little kid and minded his own business."

"He was a cool kid we used to play basketball and stuff and I still can't believe this happened."

YOLANDA STEPHEN, THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS FOR THE TROUP COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM SAYS THEY'RE DOING EVERYTHING TO HELP THE STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF COPE WITH THE LOSS.

"It's very unexpected any anytime there is a loss we feel saddened by it. I'm sorry this is a difficult time."

MICHAEL JACKSON, THE PASTOR AT CONFIDENCE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH SAYS AT TIMES LIKE THIS IT'S IMPORTANT FOR THE COMMUNITY TO COME TOGETHER.

"It's a tragedy in the community and we are coming together and embracing ourselves and coming together to support the family of the young man that lost his life.

JACKSON KNOWS THE FAMILY AND HE SENDS THEM THIS SPECIAL MESSAGE.

"God is still able and he's still in control, but most of all we as a community are coming together and praying for them."

THE CRISIS MANAGEMENT TEAM WILL BE AT LAGRANGE HIGH SCHOOL THIS WEEK WORKING WITH STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF TO GUIDE THEM THROUGH THIS TRAGEDY. ON YOUR SIDE, ASHLEY LEWIS WRBL NEWS THREE. **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

9/9 Auburn Oak Dedication -

"This is one of dedicated trees that leads you from Toomer's Corner to Samford Hall. The university says being able to carry on the legacy of the original oaks is something very special."

BACK IN 2003 PROFESSOR SCOTT ENEBAK AND SOME UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS COLLECTED ACORNS FROM THE ORIGINAL TOOMER'S OAKS IN THE EVENT SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO THE TREES.

WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF SAMFORD PARK, 10 OF THE TREES WERE PLANTED.

AND THE UNIVERSITY HOPES TO PLANT 11 MORE.

THE UNIVERSITY SAYS IT IS SO SPECIAL TO BE ABLE TO CARRY ON THE LEGACY OF THE ORIGINAL OAKS.

"We collected these acorns back in 2003. Working in forestry, you really don't plant for your generation. You plant for the next generation. As far as these being special, I had no intention of ever seeing these trees on this lawn. I figured this was for someone else to do, someone 20, 30 years down the road."

"The university is urging folks not to roll these trees after an Auburn win just yet, but instead to roll the trees at Toomer's Corner. On your side in Auburn, Alex Derencz, WRBL News Three." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

9/12 Mansours Knocked Down -

AS YOU CAN SEE IN THIS VIDEO THE OLD DEPARTMENT STORE WAS TORN DOWN EARLY THIS MORNING.

A 4-STORY HOTEL WILL BE BUILT IN ITS PLACE.

THE HOTEL AND PARKING GARAGE ARE EXPECTED TO REVITALIZE THE DOWNTOWN AREA OF LAGRANGE.

AS NEWS 3 HAS REPORTED....

WHEN I-85 CAME TO TOWN, MOST HOTELS MOVED NEAR IT.

THIS HAS LEFT A VACANCY FOR A HOTEL IN THIS AREA.

THE CITY HAS BEEN WORKING ON A PLAN FOR MORE THAN A DECADE...TO BRING A HOTEL BACK TO DOWNTOWN. **6pm Vo:30,11pm Vo:30**

9/23 New Valley Homes -

MONDAY, THESE HOUSES WERE JUST CONCRETE SLABS.

BUT...

AFTER FIVE DAYS OF HARD WORK, ALL THAT'S LEFT ARE A FEW DETAILS.

ALL MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FULLER CENTER.

AN ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO BUILDING AND RENOVATING HOMES FOR FAMILIES IN NEED.

GIVING HOMEOWNERS A HANDUP, NOT A HANDOUT.

"I've sawed. I've nailed. I've hammered. I've helped put up the walls. I've helped put up the siding. Today, I'm caulking and peeping. I've been going around to look at what's been done."

THE HOMEOWNERS PAY FOR THE HOUSES ON TERMS THEY CAN AFFORD WITH NO INTEREST CHARGED OR PROFIT MADE.

THE PAYMENTS GO TOWARDS BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTING NEW HOMES.

"More than 200 volunteers have been working on these homes, and they say they get just as much out of this experience as those receiving the homes do."

JASMINE LUEDI IS ONE OF THOSE VOLUNTEERS.

HER GRANDFATHER HELPED START THE ORGANIZATION.

SHE SPENT HER 16TH BIRTHDAY BUILDING THIS HOUSE AND LIVING OUT HIS LEGACY.

WITH HIS HAMMER EN TOW, SHE KEEPS GOING.

"It kind of makes me in awe of what we're doing here. It's seems like a simple task, coming here for a week, building a house, and you're done. But, when you think about it, you're creating a new life for these people, and it's almost too much to take in sometimes."

"I'm ready for it now, but I have to wait, but I'm really excited."

CHANGING LIVES FROM THE GROUND UP.

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

9/26 What's Next For Toomers Oak -

"Auburn University Horticulture professor, Gary Kever says he expects the leaves to fall off of this tree in seven to 10 days as a result of the fire. I spoke with the student who pointed the suspect out to police. She said it was just basic instincts."

AS DAY BREAKS, TOOMER'S CORNER UNDERGOES ITS NORMAL POST GAME CLEANUP.

ONE TREE IS NOT ITS NORMAL FORM.

GET WELL CARDS ARE NOW AROUND THE TREE THAT WAS DAMAGED BY FIRE EARLY SUNDAY MORNING.

HERRON TAYLOR AND HER BOYFRIEND WITNESSED THE WHOLE THING.

SHE SAID SOMEONE YELLED THAT THE TREE WAS ON FIRE.

HER BOYFRIEND YELLED TO GET THE GUY WHO THEY THOUGHT DID IT.

"I went after the guy and was just like 'you lit the tree on fire!' I was just like, you did this, what is wrong with you? You did this? He was just like, no. He started to walk away from me. I was like, nope."

TAYLOR SAYS THAT PERSON WAS JOCHEN (YO-HEN) WIEST (WEE-ST).

TODAY HE WAS CHARGED WITH PUBLIC INTOXICATION, DESECRATING A VENERABLE OBJECT AND FELONY CRIMINAL MISCHIEF.

AUBURN HORTICULTURIST GARY KEEVER SAYS THE TREE'S CONDITION HAS WORSENERD.

HE EXPECTS THE LEAVES TO FALL OFF THE TREE IN SEVEN TO 10 DAYS.

ADDING THAT IT WILL NOT BE A PRETTY SIGHT DURING WINTER.

HE SAYS THE FULL EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE MAY NOT BE DETERMINED UNTIL SPRING OF 20-17.

"The big indicator will be when the tree attempts to regrow in the spring. If it's weak and it's down in the canopy and the top of the tree is essentially dead, we're going to have to remove a lot of the canopy and at some point, the decision has to be made whether the tree warrants being kept in this position."

UNTIL THEN, THE UNIVERSITY AND THE OAK WAIT.

FOR TAYLOR, THIS EXPERIENCE SOLIDIFIED HOW SPECIAL THE OAKS ON TOOMER'S CORNER REALLY ARE.

"I think it pulled me closer into the Auburn Family and showed me first hand how amazing this tradition is and how much the Auburn Family cares about this tradition

"A lift is expected to be used sometime this week to further examine the canopy of the tree. On your side in Auburn, Alex Derencz, WRBL News Three." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

EDUCATION:

7/11 Auburn Dean On Hunger -

JUNE HENTON HAS WORKED AT AUBURN UNIVERSITY FOR 30 YEARS.

SHE SAYS GLOBAL HUNGER IS THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE IN THE EFFORT TO BECOME A SUSTAINABLE WORLD.

"People who are suffering, it's a health issue. It's an education issue. It's a workforce issue. The need for people to be well-nourished is so important for a healthy society and a good quality of life."

THE GOOD NEWS, ACCORDING TO HENTON, IS THAT WORLD HUNGER IS A SOLVABLE ISSUE.

ACCORDING TO HENTON, THERE IS ENOUGH FOOD IN THE WORLD TO FEED THOSE WHO ARE HUNGRY.

IT'S ONLY CERTAIN ISSUES LIKE WAR AND FLOODS THAT CAN KEEP FOOD FROM BEING DISTRIBUTED.

IN ORDER TO SOLVE THE ISSUES, PEOPLE FROM ALL PARTS OF SOCIETY NEED TO PREPARE THE NEXT GENERATION.

"We know that it's a moral issue for a lot of people. We feel like there is just something wrong with our society where we have so many people who are suffering, and it's sort of an issue of the haves and have nots, and that leads to national security issues that come out of that."

"Dean Henton says she can't put an exact date on when global hunger will be solved, but says when it is solved, this world will be a much better place."

"Everybody, regardless of race, religion, ethnic group, whatever, will have an opportunity to be fulfilled, to have a better quality of life and we hope have a sustainable world."

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

7/14 Auburn Meningitis folo -

CARTER GUSTIN IS A JUNIOR AT AUBURN.

TUESDAY NIGHT BEFORE HE WENT TO BED, HE RECEIVED AN E-MAIL ABOUT A MENINGITIS CASE ON CAMPUS.

"If you're getting an email about someone being sick, it's obviously kind of heightened alertness. I actually thought of the movie outbreak. That was my first thought when I was reading it. I was getting scared thinking what if he was sitting next to me in one of my classes. It's just really concerning because if they are sending an email, it's obviously a pretty big deal."

BUT NOW, GUSTIN SAYS HE'S NO LONGER CONCERNED ABOUT IT.

THE UNIVERSITY SAYS THERE IS NO NEED TO PANIC.
THEY ARE ACTIVELY SEARCHING FOR PEOPLE WHO WERE IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE STUDENT.

SHANNON CASON IS A PHYSICIAN AT THE SCHOOL'S CLINIC.

HE SAYS MENINGOCOCCAL MENINGITIS IS THE MOST AGGRESSIVE FORM BUT RARELY ENDS IN DEATH.

HE ADDS THAT SPREADING IT IS TOUGHER THAN SPREADING A COMMON COLD.
"Most of the time, bacterial meningitis requires fairly close physical contact or extended time spent together with the sick person. Most of the students on campus are not at risk."

"Dr. Cason says in order to prevent bacterial meningitis, it is critical to receive the meningitis vaccine. He says there's also another preventative measure... Washing your hands.

GUSTIN IS GLAD THE UNIVERSITY IS TAKING A PROACTIVE APPROACH.

HE SAYS NOT HAVING TO WORRY MAKES THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE BETTER.
AND WORRYING IS THE LAST THING THE UNIVERSITY WANTS PEOPLE TO DO.

"If you have concerns, seek out medical care, but it's important not to panic because spreading rumors and spreading fear makes the situation much worse.

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

7/15 College Merge On Hold -

A POTENTIAL MERGER BETWEEN SEVERAL COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN EAST ALABAMA IS ON HOLD INDEFINITELY.

THE MERGER INCLUDED SOUTHERN UNION, CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND CENTRAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

NO DETAILED REASON WAS GIVEN FOR THE DECISION.

MARK HEINRICH, THE CHANCELLOR OF THE ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM SAID THE MERGER IS PAUSING WITH NO TIMETABLE RIGHT NOW.

INTERIM PRESIDENT OF SOUTHERN UNION, GLENDA COLAGROSS - TOLD NEWS THREE THAT QUOTE...."WE CAN NOW FOCUS ON SOUTHERN UNION AND MOVE FORWARD INITIATIVES AND PLANS TO ENHANCE STUDENT SUCCESS. " END QUOTE.

THE ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM APPROVED THE CONSOLIDATIONS LAST YEAR - BUT THE MERGER ALREADY HAS BEEN DELAYED ONCE BEFORE. **6pm Vo:40,11pm VO:40**

7/26 MCSD School Board Race -

"I'm at the Green Room at the Loft where Cathy Williams and her supporters are celebrating her win for the District Seven seat."

WILLIAMS PREVIOUSLY SERVED ON THE SCHOOL BOARD FOR EIGHT YEARS... INCLUDING TWO YEARS AS THE BOARD'S CHAIR.

SHE DEFEATED SHELIA WILLIAMS IN THIS RUN-OFF.

I'M JOINED BY CATHY WILLIAMS. FIRST OF ALL, CONGRATULATIONS.

WHAT DOES THIS WIN MEAN FOR YOU AND FOR DISTRICT SEVEN?

WELL IT MEANS THAT I'VE GOT TO GO BACK TO WORK ON PUBLIC EDUCATION AND I'M EXCITED AND GRATEFUL TO THE VOTERS TO LET ME DO THAT.

JANUARY FIRST I WILL JOIN MY COLLEAGUES ON THE SCHOOL

BOARD AGAIN. THIS TIME AS THE DISTRICT SEVEN REPRESENTATIVE AND I WILL GO TO WORK.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE THE MAIN ISSUES NOW THAT YOU WILL FOCUS ON WHEN YOU TAKE THAT SEAT IN JANUARY?

WELL I THINK THAT WE'RE MAKING A LOT OF PROGRESS IN THIS DISTRICT AND I WANT TO BE PART OF MAKING SURE THAT PROGRESS CONTINUES SO THAT WE CAN RAISE THE DISTRICT TO THE NEXT LEVEL AND THEN THE NEXT LEVEL AND BE THE BEST DISTRICT IN GEORGIA.

AND HOW WILL THIS DYNAMIC BE DIFFERENT FOR YOU THIS TIME BECAUSE YOU SERVED AS COUNTY WIDE BEFORE AND NOW YOU'RE SERVING FOR A SPECIFIC DISTRICT, WILL THAT BE ANY CHANGES FOR YOU?

NO, I'LL STILL HAVE ONE VOICE AND ONE VOTE.

ALRIGHT, THANK YOU SO MUCH.

AND LIKE WE SAID, SHE WILL BE SWORN IN JANUARY FOR A FOUR YEAR TERM.

ON YOUR SIDE... IN COLUMBUS... BRENNAN REH W-R-B-L NEWS THREE. 6pm

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

8/1 Al Cursive -

AN ALABAMA LAW GOES INTO EFFECT TODAY -- MANDATING THAT ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS TEACH CURSIVE WRITING.

THE RUSSELL COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM SAYS THIS WON'T CHANGE THEIR LESSON PLANS --

BECAUSE THEY NEVER STOPPED TEACHING CURSIVE TO THEIR STUDENTS.

BECAUSE OF THE PREVALENCE OF COMPUTERS AND THE TENDENCY OF PEOPLE TO PREFER TYPING TO HANDWRITING, LESSONS IN CURSIVE WERE ABANDONED IN MANY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN AMERICA.

BUT THAT'S NEVER BEEN THE CASE IN RUSSELL COUNTY. 6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm

Vo/Sot:45

8/5 Troup Floating Classrooms -

THERE'S NOTHING HENRY JACOBS LOVES MORE THAN SPREADING HIS ENTHUSIASM FOR NATURE -- PARTICULARLY WHEN IT COMES TO WEST POINT LAKE. "You do see it..that moment of when kind of the light turns on."

TURNING ON THAT LIGHT IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THIS CUSTOM BUILT TRI-TUNE BOAT GOES FROM THIS . . . TO THIS!

"Support from the community has brought this boat here."

THANKS TO SPONSORS WHO ARE COMMITTED TO EDUCATION, THE CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVERKEEPERS IS ABLE TO PROVIDE FREE TOURS TO STUDENTS FROM GEORGIA AND ALABAMA.

FOR THAT REASON, THEY CALL IT A FLOATING CLASSROOM.

"And truly, there could not be a better name for the Miss Sally than floating classroom. When kids come on board, they receive lessons that align with their school curriculum."

"We are bringing performance standards to the programs, whether it's Georgia performance standards or Alabama education standards. And the teachers, love that."

THIS FIELD-- OR RIVER-- TRIP IS MUCH MORE THAN A TALK AND TOUR.

STUDENTS ALSO HAVE A CHANCE TO GET THEIR HANDS DIRTY.

"Doing water tests, we let them test PH of the water, dissolved oxygen, we have plankton nets, look under the microscope. Simple things, but really great ways to engage them."

ENGAGING A NEW GENERATION WITH A LOVE AND APPRECIATION FOR SCIENCE, NATURE, AND HISTORY. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

8/5GNET Moving to JD Davis -

THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD HAS NOW MOVED ITS SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

TO J-D DAVIS ELEMENTARY.

WORKERS WERE FINISHING UP MOVING
THE LAST FEW THINGS TODAY -- TO GET
READY FOR THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

THE MOVE COMES AFTER THE STATE
DECLARED UNSAFE AND UNHEALTHY --
AND ORDERED THE PROGRAM
TO BE MOVED FROM THE BUILDING
IMMEDIATELY. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/8 School Progress Report -

"I've always wanted to be as involved as I can."

WYNONA SANDERS HAS THREE KIDS
ATTENDING J-D DAVIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

"Davis is a great opportunity school. I began working with the FAST program here, which helps
bring families closer together."

DAVIS JOINS EIGHT OTHER SCHOOLS
IN MUSCOGEE COUNTY THAT ARE ON A STATE LIST
OF "PERPETUALLY FAILING SCHOOLS."

"We want to recognize that these schools are challenged with many different obstacles they have
to overcome."

SUPERINTENDENT DAVID LEWIS SAYS THE PLAN TO IMPROVE
SCHOOL TEST SCORES IS UNIQUE TO EACH FAILING SCHOOL AND ITS TEACHERS.
We are working with them to develop individual improvement plans based on the needs of the
specific school. And overall, we're building on two years of initiatives."

COME NOVEMBER, VOTERS WILL DECIDE WHETHER
TO LET THE STATE CREATE SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICTS
THAT WILL GOVERN PERPETUALLY FAILING SCHOOLS.

PROponents OF A STATE TAKEOVER SAY
STUDENTS WILL GET MORE INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION.

I think schools that come into the opportunity school district will get more attention from some of
the best educators in the state."

MEANWHILE, OPPONENTS QUESTION INTERFERENCE
FROM LAWMAKERS IN THE CLASSROOM.

"If we're to make our schools better, why not go to people on the front line like teachers?"

WHILE THE DECISION COMES DOWN TO THE VOTERS,
WYNONA SANDERS DOESN'T WANT TO MISS A MOMENT OF HER
CHILD'S FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

"These moments are very important." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/10 GIG Internet In Auburn -

TREY JOHNSTON IS THE OWNER OF J AND M BOOKSTORE IN DOWNTOWN AUBURN.

THE INTERNET IS HIS LIFELINE... FROM CREDIT CARD PROCESSING TO
COMMUNICATION.

JOHNSTON SAYS, THERE ARE TIMES NOW WHEN THE INTERNET FAILS THEM.

"The first day of classes and the big games are when we do most of our business, and all of a
sudden, you've got the internet going down. I don't care about how many gigabits, wigabits you've
got with your stuff, it gets overloaded every now and then."

BUT, THERE IS HELP.

WOW WILL BE THE FIRST INTERNET PROVIDER TO OFFER AUBURN ONE GIGABYTE SERVICE.

THEY CURRENTLY OFFER 600 MEGABYTES PER SECOND TO THE AREA.

THE GIGABIT ALMOST DOUBLES THAT AT ONE-THOUSAND MEGABYTES PER SECOND.

WOW HAS BEEN IN AUBURN SINCE 20-10.

THEY SAY THEIR PLANT WAS BUILT FOR FUTURE GROWTH.

SO OFFERING ONE GIGABIT IN AUBURN WAS A PERFECT MATCH.

"The city says having the one gigabit capability is another tool in the toolbox of potentially attracting more folks to the area."

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER JIM BUSTON SAYS THE HOMEOWNER AND SMALL BUSINESS OWNER WHO NEEDS MORE BANDWIDTH WILL SEE A BIG DIFFERENCE.

AND IT ENCOURAGES COMPETITION.

"We're allowing the private sector to do what the private sector does best. We are fostering competition and choice for our citizens, which makes a better product for all."

AS FOR JOHNSTON, HE'S EXCITED TO USE THE FASTER SERVICE...

"I'm waiting on them to call on me, so we'll see what that's all about."

... IN HOPES THAT IT MIGHT BRING HIM A BIGGER BUSINESS.

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

8/12 STEM School Focusing On Scores -

DEBRA AND CHRIS PORCH HAVE DECIDED TO SEND THEIR 3-YEAR OLD SON TO PRE-KINDERGARDEN A YEAR EARLY.

UNLIKE MOST SCHOOLS THAT REQUIRE STUDENTS TO BE 4-YEARS OLD, THE EMANUEL PREPATORY SCHOOL OF MATH AND SCIENCE GIVES PARENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENROLL THEIR KIDS IF THEY BELIEVE THEY'RE READY.

"It's not just a pre-k curriculum he's already been assessed and they already know about his abilities, strengths, weaknesses and they will take him as far as he can go. We're excited!"

DAVID HUGHES, THE HEADMASTER, SAYS THEY'VE CREATED A SPECIAL CURRICULUM THAT FITS THE NEEDS OF EACH CHILD.

"We give them a standard pre k assesment to see what skills they have and what knowlege they have as they enter. From there we break it down and we create a plan for each student so that they can grow at their pace."

PORCH FEELS CONFIDENT IN HIS SON'S FUTURE.

The fact that they place a strong emphasis on math and science is huge. If you think about the jobs of now and of the future many of those jobs are going to be in the area of math and science.

CARLOS COLEMAN, THE SCHOOL'S FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT, STARTED THE SCHOOL BECAUSE HE SAW A NEED IN THE AREA.

"The United States falls 125 in math and science on a global level. The state of Georgia only have four STEM states that are worse off in STEM."

MEANWHILE THE PORCH FAMILY HOPES THERE SON WILL CHOOSE A CAREER IN STEM WHEN HE'S OLDER.

"If he chooses to pursue a career in that area that will be great." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/15 CSU Film Students On The Move -

WELCOME TO THE SET OF "MOON SHINE STILL."

THIS BUSTLE OF ACTIVITY IS NOT ON A HOLLYWOOD LOT-- BUT ON SWEET HOME PLANTATION IN HARRIS COUNTY.

"We have great shooting locations, we have fantastic infrastructure now. That means great studios, great vendors, great support systems."

ALL THOSE SUPPORT SYSTEMS ARE DRIVING THE LIGHTS, CAMERA, AND ACTION TO THE PEACH STATE AND INVALUABLE EXPERIENCE TO STUDENTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE FROM COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY.

C-S-U JUST IMPLEMENTED A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GEORGIA FILM ACADEMY.

"And to hear their stories, they're thrilled with what's going on here. And from what I'm hearing, our students are holding their own."

"Being able to do it here and have my friends and already have a network working for me, it's really important to me."

"But I always thought I would have to move to California, New York, or somewhere else to do that. So, it's great that the industry has really come to me."

"Georgia's star is quickly rising, becoming an A-lister in terms of location when it comes to Hollywood films and TV show locations."

"Grouped with New York and Los Angeles, Georgia. We're actually among the top five in the world as well."

THE FILM'S DIRECTOR AND WRITER, TACK-O-SHIE DOS-SHER IS A GEORGIA NATIVE WHO RETURNED HOME TO MAKE HIS MOVIE.

"As a Georgia filmmaker, it was always very important for me to make my first movie, and hopefully every movie after this, right here in the state of Georgia. And the legislation has only made that easier." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

8/25 CSU Clearview Hall -

"I'm here at Columbus State University for the grand opening of their freshman dorm ClearView Hall."

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8/30 College Partnership -

YOU'RE LOOKING AT HISTORY IN THE MAKING.

LOGAN BOYD AND DOUGLAS TEAGUE ARE TWO OF EIGHT STUDENTS COMPRISING THE FIRST TWO-YEAR CO-HORT OF THE ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM AT SOUTH GEORGIA TECHNICAL COLLEGE.

"I think it's pretty cool, you know. Just me and seven other boys are the first eight in the country, and I think we have a lot to show and be impressive in what we do."

"When you're helping the next generation come through, you're able to give probably a little better advice, better lessons, and ultimately, produce a better product."

AND TO HAVE A WORLD'S FIRST CLASS-- IT TAKES A WORLD-CLASS INSTRUCTOR.
MEET KYLE HARTSFIELD.

"It's definitely a great honor, for us to be able to be the first one in the world, but obviously, for me to be the first instructor of this program is an absolute honor."

take a look at this huge generator. This is exactly the type of machine that would be used at a hospital, say, in the event of a power failure. It would be used to make life support machines keep running. South Georgia Technical College says it's an honor to be the first college in the world to be teaching such a program."><It's so exciting. We are very proud to be partnered with a company like Caterpillar and to have instructors like Kyle Hartsfield and Rick Davis who are such great instructors.">

GREAT INSTRUCTORS AND STUDENTS BLAZING HISTORY AND LEADING THE WAY INTO THE FUTURE.

IN AMERICUS, GREG LOYD, WRBL NEWS 3. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45

8/31 Kenetic Golden Apple -

HARDAWAY HIGH TEACHER
LISA JARMON IS THIS WEEK'S KINETIC
CREDIT UNION GOLDEN APPLE AWARD WINNER.

NEWS 3'S CARLOS WILLIAMS SURPRISED THE ENGLISH TEACHER WITH THE AWARD
THIS WEEK.

JARMON IS A 9-YEAR TEACHING VETERAN WHO WAS NOMINATED BY FORMER
STUDENT ALICIA JONES.

JONES SAYS JARMON HELPED HER TO ENHANCE HER WRITING SKILLS...AND
HELPED HER GROW AS AN INDIVIDUAL.

JARMON... A UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA GRAD... SAYS TEACHING IS WHAT SHE
LOVES. 6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45

9/7 Golden Apple Shaw -

THIS WEEK, OUR CAMERAS HEADED TO
SHAW HIGH SCHOOL TO HONOR OUR LATEST
KINETIC CREDIT UNION GOLDEN APPLE AWARD WINNER.

SHE'S 9TH GRADE SCIENCE TEACHER
PEYTON PROFITT WHO ACCEPTED THE AWARD
FROM NEWS 3'S CARLOS WILLIAMS.

PROFITT WAS NOMINATED BY FORMER STUDENT
AMBER MORRELL WHO DESCRIBED HER AS A
PASSIONATE AND DEDICATED TEACHER .

MORRELL SAYS MS. PROFITT HELPED HER
THROUGH ALL ASPECTS OF
HER SCHOOL AND HOME LIFE.

PROFITT WAS HONORED TO RECEIVE THE AWARD. 6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45

9/29 Chat. Co Guns At School -

AUTHORITIES SAY A MAN ARMED WITH TWO GUNS --
PROMPTED A LOCKDOWN AT TWO CHATTAHOOCHEE
COUNTY SCHOOLS TODAY.

SCHOOL OFFICIALS SAY TWO STAFF MEMBERS REPORTED A SUSPICIOUS
MAN IN THE PARKING LOT OF CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS AROUND 7:30 THIS MORNING.

THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE SAYS THE SCHOOL RESOURCE
OFFICER FOUND 2 GUNS ON THIS MAN - MELVIN JOHN SHIVELY.

HE IS NOW FACING CHARGES INCLUDING
POSSESSION OF A WEAPON ON SCHOOL PROPERTY,
CRIMINAL TRESPASS, AND DISRUPTING SCHOOL OPERATIONS.

THEY SAY SO FAR THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT ANYONE
WAS BEING TARGETED OR THAT SHIVELY INTENDED TO
HARM ANY STUDENTS OR STAFF. 6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm Vo/Sot:45

FAMILY VALUES:

7/1 Firework Safety -

"It can be a very stressful time and out here in the country my next door neighbors will be shooting off fireworks having a good time. Everybody does it every year."

MORGAN WHITLOCK DREADS THIS TIME OF THE YEAR BECAUSE SHE KNOWS

THERE'S GOING TO BE SO MANY FIREWORKS GOING OFF.

"I have to work especially hard and make sure that my dog has a safe spot to go because she's terrified of any loud noises."

NOT ONLY DOES SHE HAVE TWO DOGS, BUT SHE HAS HORSES THAT AREN'T SO FOND OF THE NOISES.

"It's usually the boom and sometimes the fizzles that can create a different reaction because it's not a normal sound."

CHRIS MYERS, A FIREWORKS SPECIALIST, SAYS THERE IS A LARGE SELECTION OF FIREWORKS THAT DON'T MAKE LOUD NOISES.

"Other smaller things that don't shoot way up in the air and make big explosions, because that's what most residential people don't like. There is a big military group here that suffer from PTSD and a lot of people with animals that don't like all that big noise."

MYERS STRESSES THE IMPORTANCE OF FIREWORK SAFETY.

"You see a lot of people who use them improperly. They hold them in their hands and that's how people end up getting burned or hurt. If you read the instructions of it it says that you need to stick it in the ground or in a bottle. You light it and step away."

MEANWHILE, WHITLOCK WANTS EVERYONE TO HAVE A PLEASANT HOLIDAY WEEKEND.

"It's really the biggest thing that I would like to get out there because I've known soldiers with PTSD that can't handle fireworks. The dog's can be skidish and if you have animals make sure to keep them inside." **6pm PKG 1:30, 11pm Vo/Sot:45**

7/6 Proton Therapy -

JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO, RHEA BIRUSINGH (REE-UH BE-YUR-SING) WASN'T SURE SHE WOULD GET TO SPEND QUIET MOMENTS LIKE THESE WITH HER SON.

SHORTLY AFTER GETTING PREGNANT, RHEA BEGAN HAVING BLURRY VISION. SHE KNEW CHANGES LIKE THAT ARE COMMON DURING PREGNANCY, BUT AS A DOCTOR, SHE SUSPECTED SOMETHING WAS WRONG.

"I pay particular attention to my eyes, and I noticed that my left eye was not moving left, as the way it should be."

SCANS SHOWED RHEA HAD DEVELOPED A TUMOR, SITUATED BETWEEN HER EYE AND A CRITICAL PART OF HER BRAIN.

"Nothing could be done during the pregnancy of course, and after pregnancy no surgery was possible because of the critical location of the tumor."

AFTER DOCTORS INDUCED LABOR TO SAVE RHEA'S BABY, THE RACE WAS ON TO SAVE HER SIGHT. SO, RHEA WENT TO UF HEALTH CANCER CENTER - ORLANDO HEALTH.

NORMALLY DOCTORS WOULD USE X-RAYS TO RADIATE A TUMOR LIKE RHEA'S - BUT THAT CAN DAMAGE SURROUNDING TISSUE. SO, SHE UNDERWENT A TREATMENT KNOWN AS PROTON THERAPY.

"It's a big burst of energy right inside the tumor and then there's actually no protons beyond the tumor so there's no radiation dose. So it's a dramatic difference."

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS. A 3-STORY, 200-THOUSAND POUND MACHINE SPEEDS UP PROTONS UP TO 402-MILLION MILES PER HOUR. THEN, BEAMS THEM PRECISELY INTO TUMOR CELLS.

"And the energy that we give them determines the depth to which they penetrate the body and at which depth they release their energy.

IT'S A BREAKTHROUGH IN TREATMENT FOR THOSE WITH TUMORS IN SENSITIVE OR HARD TO REACH AREAS. WITHOUT IT, RHEA MAY NEVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO WATCH HER CHILD GROW.

"All of the negative things you could think about, it could be a lot. But you think about all the positives, it's phenomenal." **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

7/7 Hope To Dream -

THIRTY-NINE LUCKY LADIES RECEIVED NEW MATTRESSES FROM THE ASHLEY HOME STORE THANKS TO HOPE TO DREAM.

THE CHARITY WAS STARTED BY THE FURNITURE STORE. JOHN SUMMERFORD IS THE STORE MANAGER.

<"We felt we're already in the business and we have this product so we decided this is something we wanted to do by giving back to the community."

ALTHOUGH THEY RECEIVE HUNDREDS OF APPLICATIONS EACH YEAR. THEY MAKE IT A PRIORITY TO HELP EVERYONE THEY CAN.

"We take all the applications, read through them and according to our sales we may have ten or eleven beds to give away for that quarter."

FOR EACH MATTRESS THEY SELL, THEY DONATE FIVE DOLLARS TO THEIR CHARITY, WHICH IS HOW THEY FUND THEIR GIVEAWAYS.

"We look at the most in need and then we will select those and then look at next months."

ASHLEY'S HOME STORE HAS DONATED 45 TWIN SIZE MATTRESSES TO THE ANNE ELIZABETH SHEPARD HOME.

RAMON ALLEN, THE HOME'S PROGRAM DIRECTOR, SAYS HIS DAY WAS MADE WHEN HE SAW THE LOOK ON THE GIRLS FACES.

it was like christmas in July. The girls were very excited and the smiles on their faces. There was a lot of laughter."

ALLEN SAYS THE OLD MATTRESSES WEREN'T THE BEST QUALITY, BUT THAT'S ALL THE PROGRAM COULD AFFORD.

AND WITH THE NEW ONES.....

gives the girls an opportunity to sleep better at night and also rest comfortably after a hard day.

"They were very excited going to bed last night because of the new mattresses and when they woke up they said how well they slept last night."

SLEPT SO WELL, ONE OF THE GIRLS WROTE A LETTER TO ASHLEY. IT READS IN PART, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE BEDS, IT WAS SUCH A BLESSING. WE SLEPT SO GOOD! THANK YOU!

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

7/11 N3N: Treasure Hunter -

JAKE KOEHLER

LIVES IN PHENIX CITY..

AND FEELS RIGHT AT HOME

THE CLOSER HE GETS TO THE

CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER.

JAKE GREW UP IN

CALIFORNIA WHERE SPENT

A LOT OF TIME SURFING.

THAT'S WHY HE'S RIGHT

AT HOME RIDING THE CONTINUOUS

WAVE AT HEAVEN'S GATE ON

THE COLUMBUS SIDE OF THE

RIVER.

BUT JAKE IS MOST

COMFORTABLE UNDERNEATH

THOSE WAVES..EXPLORING

WHAT LIES BELOW.

"I know a lot of people probably lose some cool stuff here because everyone's

going down in the rafts. So I started

swimming around and I started

documenting the cliffs and sharing

the footage on YouTube. Started getting

a little bit of an audience and now

I'm out here everyday looking for

treasure, and it's so much fun."

JAKE'S TOOLS OF THE TRADE

ARE A FACE MASK AND SNORKEL,

FINS, A PAIR OF SCISSORS, AND

A COUPLE OF GO-PRO CAMERAS.

THEY CAPTURE HIS UNDERWATER

ADVENTURES.

AND YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE

ALL THE STUFF HE'S COLLECTED..

"Just this past season where all the

hybrids and stripes came up, I came out

here and the first day I swam I found hundreds

of lures. I must have found over 300."

HE'S EVEN FOUND A

WHOLE TACKLE BOX FULL OF LURES!

HE'S RECOVERED SUNGLASSES..

CELL PHONES..

"Lately I've been finding a couple of

Go Pros. I found a gold ring last year.

That's about the best stuff I've found so far."

WHEN JAKE COMES ACROSS

JUNK CLUTTERING UP THE RIVERBED,

HE MAKES A SPECIAL EFFORT TO

YANK IT OUT THE WATER AND

THROW IT AWAY.

"I'm just trying to make it a safer place

and I'm having a lot of fun just getting

all these treasures, you know."

BESIDES THE MANMADE

TREASURES, JAKE ALSO FINDS
A WONDERFUL WORLD OF UNDERWATER
CREATURES.

"You see a lot of catfish, striped bass,
hybrids, spotted bass, a lot of different
kind of bass, some chad."

FROM TIME TO TIME JAKE WILL
RUN ACROSS A FISH THAT STILL
HAS A HOOK AND FISHING LINE IN
ITS MOUTH.

HE'S CAREFUL TO REMOVE
THE HOOK AND RELEASE THE
FISH BACK INTO THE RIVER.

"Most people think swimming in the
river is just creepy. But it's honestly
really beautiful underneath."

JAKE HAS TRIED HIS HAND
AT NOODLING A CATFISH FROM
BENEATH THE ROCKS..

THIS ONE WAS A LITTLE TO
FRISKY FOR HIM.

"You'll see some big turtles. I'm a
little stressed out about some of
those big turtles. They might get me.
I'm always out there barefoot and I don't
want my little toes to get chopped off.
But it's a lot of fun seeing all that
stuff out there." **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

7/18 N3N Wright Market -

WRIGHT'S MARKET
STARTED AS A SMALL
CONVENIENCE STORE
ON PLEASANT DRIVE IN
OPELIKA BACK IN 1973.

JIMMY WRIGHT'S
PARENTS WERE ASKED TO
RUN IT UNTIL THE OWNER
COULD FIND A MANAGER.

HE NEVER DID..

SO JIMMY'S FOLKS STAYED ON
AND EVENTUALLY BOUGHT IT.

"I worked here when I was a kid.
My claim to fame is I still hold the
record for being fired more than
anyone else."

JIMMY SAYS A LOT OF
THEIR CUSTOMERS EARLY ON
WERE EMPLOYEES OF NEARBY
MILLS.

"Those textile workers shopped
every Thursday, Friday, Saturday.
They supported our business.
So very much...we would not have
survived had it not been for their
support."

JIMMY TRIES TO SHOW HIS APPRECIATION BY LISTENING TO HIS CUSTOMERS' NEEDS.

TRANSPORTION IS A BIG PROBLEM FOR SOME OF THEM. SO JIMMY HAS RESPONDED BY PURCHASING A 15 PASSENGER VAN.

"Customers can call the store and we'll come to your home and pick you up, bring you back to the store, allow you to shop, and then take you back home. And there's no charge for that."

WRIGHT'S MARKET IS CURRENTLY TESTING A NEW ONLINE SHOPPING SERVICE.

"We will actually deliver groceries to your house. You order online. We can deliver to your home."

"A lot of people we hear from don't even have the ability, physical ability, to get out and go to the store. So we see that as another way we can reach our customers."

JIMMY'S COMMITMENT TO HIS CUSTOMERS GOES WELL BEYOND JUST WHAT HE CAN OFFER THEM THROUGH HIS STORE.

"Several years ago...just began to hear from a lot of our longtime, older customers about changes in their neighborhoods over in the south part of Opelika."

JIMMY HAS BECOME ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN SEEKING IMPROVEMENTS FOR THOSE AREAS.

"We came up with a plan to revitalize two neighborhoods in our community... Carver and Jeter. That plan encompasses housing and a new road, a bike path and sidewalks."

I ASKED JIMMY WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF WRIGHT'S MARKET WAS NO LONGER THERE.

"We've had a number of opportunities to move out of this neighborhood before. And we just belong here." **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

7/20 Police Prayer At Square -

"Cuthbert has come, to me, almost full circle."

IN LARRY MURPHY'S 61 YEARS OF LIVING IN CUTHBERT, HE HAS NEVER SEEN SUCH A SHOWING OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE COMMUNITY COMING TOGETHER.

MURPHY SAYS RACE DEFINED THE JIM CROW ERA.

BUT HE WANTS TODAY'S ERA TO BE DIFFERENT.

"We're no better than each other. And if we can't help each other, then who can we help. And so when I'm in need, my neighbor comes to help me. And when my neighbor's in need I go help him. That's the kind of relationship and community we're trying to build."

CUTHBERT INTERIM POLICE CHIEF JENNIFER FAIRBANKS EXPLAINS THAT BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN BLACK LIVES AND BLUE LIVES STARTS WITH ENGAGING ALL LIVES.

"We're reaching out to our communities to let them know that we stand behind them and we want them to support us. That's the purpose of recognizing the black and the blue."

MANY PEOPLE ARE TURNING TO FAITH TO TRY AND UNDERSTAND EACH SIDE'S STRUGGLE.

"Love goes to all sides. It doesn't matter if it's the police side or the other side. The role of the church is not to pick sides. The role of the church is to love each person."

STATE REPRESENTATIVE GERALD GREENE SAYS GOVERNOR NATHAN DEAL IS PROPOSING INCREASED MEASURES IN SUPPORT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT.

"We have always advocated doing something, not just locking people up, but doing something to help them."

MEANWHILE, THE CUTHBERT COMMUNITY IS COMING TOGETHER, REGARDLESS OF RACE, TO MAKE SURE VIOLENCE DOESN'T STAND IN THE WAY OF SAFETY.

"We ain't gonna make everybody happy. But we have a job to do, we have an oath. So we have to do that. But our community pretty much supports us well."

"We're coming together, white people saying skin don't matter. Black people saying skin don't matter. It's about the content of your character and how much you love other people." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

7/21 Homeless Men Collect Artifact -

A GROUP OF HOMELESS MEN HUNT THE RIVER WALK EVERYDAY.

JOEY CAMP, ONE OF THE HUNTERS SAYS HE LEARNED HOW TO HUNT FROM HIS DAD.

"When you go out there and hunt this stuff and let's say you pick up a bottle or you pick up an arrowhead..you're picking up somebody's life. Somebody's history , somebody's memories...you're holding that in your hands."

COLUMBUS POLICE OFFICER, MISTY PARISH, WAS PATROLING HER AREA WHEN SHE STUMBLED ACROSS THE 'HOMELESS HUNTERS' LOOKING AT ARTIFACTS.

"I rode by a few weeks ago and I saw some guys cleaning bottles and I was just curious to see what they were doing, so I stopped and spoke with them and I was actually really intrigued with what they had to say."

FELLOW HUNTER WILLIAM JONES WANTS TO KEEP THE WATER CLEAN TO MAKE IT SAFER FOR FAMILIES.

"We don't want anybody's foot getting cut and stuff like that and this is the history and we want more people to come and see about Columbus, Georgia."

"JUST NOW THEY COLLECTED TEN MARBLES WHICH COULD COST MORE THAN A HUNDRED DOLLARS AT AN ANTIQUE STORE."

JOEY HOPES TO BE HIRED BY THE CITY, TO REGULATE WHAT'S IN THE RIVER.

I would like to work with the city and maybe they can give me a job or something. I would like to make the river clean and beautiful like it's supposed to be.

HE AND HIS FRIEND WILLIAM SAY THEIR LOVE FOR HISTORY IS WHAT MOTIVATES THEM TO DIVE IN.

"The native american history here in these waters going all the way back to them and all the way back to the civil war. One of the last greatest battles from the civil war were fought here in these waters."

THE HUNTERS SAY PRESERVING OUR HISTORY IS CRUCIAL BECAUSE IN ORDER TO KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING... YOU MUST KNOW WHERE YOU'VE COME FROM.

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

7/22 Life Jacket Safety -

THIS VIDEO SHOWS WHAT JACOB BARFIELD THOUGHT WERE HIS FINAL MOMENTS. HE CAUGHT THE TERRIFYING EXPERIENCE ON HIS GOPRO WHILE KAYAKING TWO WEEKS AGO.

"I came over hit a rock sideways, turned back over, so I was coming down backwards. I was feeling the rocks on my head, it broke the go-pro off my head."

BARFIELD GREW UP ON THE RAPIDS AND IS NOW A CERTIFIED GUIDE INSTRUCTOR FOR WHITEWATER EXPRESS.

BUT EVEN THE ELITE CAN BE CAUGHT OFF GUARD IN TRICKY WATERS.

COLUMBUS FIRE CHIEF, RICKY SHORES, SAYS WEARING THE RIGHT GEAR COULD BE WHAT KEEPS YOU ALIVE - WHEN SECONDS MATTER.

"Make sure you have a proper flotation device and make sure that it's on at all times. Just use good common sense. Respect the water and understand that without those life saving pieces of equipment, that we're required to wear, we could wind up in peril."

BUT NOT JUST ANY LIFE VEST WILL DO -- YOU WANT TO MAKE SURE IT'S APPROVED AND IT FITS.

"There may be some things that you want to check for before picking out your next life jacket. make sure that you see a UL listed and coast guard approved stamp on it, as well as, it's the right chest range and weight size for your own body."

SANNA BALL IS A CERTIFIED WHITEWATER INSTRUCTOR.

SHE AND HER DAUGHTER ENJOY OUTDOOR WATER ACTIVITIES ALONG THE CHATTAHOOCHEE.

BALL SAYS INSTILLING GOOD SAFETY HABITS ALL STARTS BY SETTING AN EXAMPLE - AT AN EARLY AGE.

"If you're a parent and you're not wearing a life jacket, or if you're in your boat and you have it stashed to the side, or just don't feel like putting it on, your kids see that."

TAKING THE TIME TO PUT ON THE PROPER LIFE JACKET IS A GOOD HABIT THAT BARFIELD SAYS HE'S GRATEFUL HE ADOPTED EARLY ON.

"If I wasn't wearing the life jacket, it would have taken me two or three more seconds to get up on top of the water, and that could have been the difference." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

7/25 Mental Health And Law Enforcement -

FOR LUANNE HELMS, HER 17 YEAR OLD SON JAKE IS HER WORLD.

RECENTLY, THEY WERE OUT IN DOWNTOWN OPELIKA ON THEIR NORMAL WALK.

HELMS SAYS SOMETHING SET JAKE OFF, AND HE TOOK OFF RUNNING.

SHE WAS SCARED PEOPLE WOULD MISUNDERSTAND HIS BEHAVIOR.

"That's the Autism in him. That's not Jake, but I was afraid to call the police to get help because we just needed a ride to get back home. What if they would have come up and taken him as a threat when he wasn't a threat?"

HELMS STARTED LOOKING AT HOW JAKE MAY BE PERCEIVED BY THE COMMUNITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT.

SHE WAS CONCERNED FOR HIS SAFETY.

THE INCIDENT IN MIAMI WHERE A POLICE OFFICER WAS AIMING FOR AN AUTISTIC MAN BECAUSE HE THOUGHT HE WAS THREAT, CONCERNED HELMS EVEN MORE.

THAT'S WHY SHE SAYS LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ON MENTAL ILLNESS IS CRUCIAL.

FOR THE SECOND YEAR, SHE IS TRAINING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS HOW TO HANDLE THOSE WITH DISORDERS LIKE AUTISM.

"It could make the difference between a life and death situation in reality. It could save a child or an adults life with them having the proper training."

"Lee County Sheriff Jay Jones says these incidents stem from a breakdown in communication, but he says his deputies are trained to make sure incidents do not happen."

IN ADDITION TO A BREAKDOWN IN COMMUNICATION THE SHERIFF SAYS INCIDENTS CAN HAPPEN DUE TO A LACK OF AWARENESS.

"When you have those two things come into play, then obviously it can result in issues that could be avoided simply having an understanding of circumstances and knowing the behavioral signs and knowing what to look for."

AND THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE APPRECIATES EVEN MORE TRAINING.

ON YOUR SIDE IN OPELIKA, ALEX DERENCZ, W-R-B-L NEWS THREE. **6pm PKG**
1:301,,pm Vo/Sot:45

7/28 Targeting Police Hate Crime -

ERICKA LOCKETTTE HAS BEEN MARRIED TO A DEPUTY MARSHALL FOR 13 YEARS. EVERYDAY SHE PRAYS THAT GOD WILL BRING HER SOUL MATE HOME.

"When my husband leaves the house people see the uniform, but I see the man underneath the uniform because he's my husband."

RAY SMITH, THE PHENIX CITY POLICE CHIEF, SAYS OFFICERS PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE EVERYDAY.

"Law enforcement officers have been shot at an 80 percent increase this year alone and of course when you take the Baton Rouge or the Dallas shootings that spikes it and it doesn't go unnoticed."

LOCKETTE IS FEELING UNEASY BECAUSE OF THE NATIONWIDE TENSION BETWEEN SOME PROTESTORS AND POLICE OFFICERS.

"Lately I've been concerned because of the things that are going on in the world today."

THE THIN BLUE LINE BILL WOULD ALLOW THE STATE TO PURSUE CHARGES AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PURSUE CAPITAL CHARGES TO ANYONE THAT HARMS A POLICE OFFICER.

"Definitely shows support because the killing of a police officer is a special threat to the community because if people don't have any respect for a police officer then they certainly won't have any respect for the citizens."

MEANWHILE LOCKETTE DOESN'T THINK THE BILL WILL CHANGE CRIMINALS MINDS WHO WANT TO INTENTIONALLY HURT LAW ENFORCEMENT.

"Will it change anything probably not because when people are doing things they're not thinking about the consequences because they're just reacting."

THE PHENIX CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT SUPPORTS THE BILL, BUT MORE THAN ANYTHING THEY WANT TO BRING UNITY AND PEACE TO THE STREETS.

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

8/2 Medicaid Cut In East AL -

"A lot of our patients feel powerless."

PEDIATRICIAN ERIC TYLER SAYS MOST OF HIS PATIENTS DEPEND ON MEDICAID FOR TREATMENT.

"I think that they view this more along the lines of it's just another situation where nobody seems to care."

DOCTOR KIM OWENS BELIEVES EVERYONE SHOULD CARE ABOUT STATEWIDE MEDICAID CUTS, BECAUSE EVERYONE COULD FEEL THE EFFECTS.

"If physicians are forced to downsize their practices, lay off staff, and and in some situations, close their practices, this will mean less access to care for every Alabamian."

"Greg Nichols, an administrator here at the East Alabama Medical Center in Opelika, says it could take months for patients to feel the effects of Medicaid cuts."

GOVERNOR ROBERT BENTLEY PROPOSED A STATE LOTTERY THAT WOULD BRING IN 225-MILLION DOLLARS TO REFILL THE MEDICAID BUDGET.

"It seems like an easy fix. But I think most states have proven that over a period of time, there's still issues with a lottery."

THERE'S ALSO THE 75-MILLION DOLLARS ALABAMA POCKETED FROM THE B-P OIL SPILL PAYOUT.

BUT MEDICAID MUST COMPETE FOR FUNDING WITH DAMAGED INFRASTRUCTURE FROM THAT SPILL, AS WELL AS THE STATE'S CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM.

HOWEVER, WITHOUT A SOLUTION...

"There are obvious, undesirable decisions that must be made. And who will suffer the most? Our patients."

NICHOLS EXPECTS LONGER WAIT TIMES AMONG OTHER PROBLEMS, AS PATIENTS LEAVE PRIVATE PRACTICES IN FAVOR OF HOSPITALS.

"Anyone that comes in our emergency room, we're going to take care of. Whether they pay or not, that's not going to change."

ON YOUR SIDE IN OPELIKA, JOE RIPLEY, W-R-B-L NEWS THREE. 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

8/10 HW: Cupping Therapy -

SUSAN CULPEPPER IS AN AVID TENNIS PLAYER. SHE WANTED TO KEEP PLAYING BUT SHE DIDN'T WANT TO TREAT HER TENNIS ELBOW PAIN WITH DRUGS. SHE TRIED ACUPUNCTURE AND SEGUED SMOOTHLY INTO CUPPING THERAPY.

"I know a lot of it sounds scary but it's not, it's not scary, it's not painful, and it really does help."

THE THEORY BEHIND CUPPING THERAPY IS THAT THE SUCTION FROM THE CUPS MOBILIZES BLOOD FLOW TO PROMOTE HEALING. DR. DUAN HUANG OF COLUMBUS SAYS IT'S ALL ABOUT GETTING THE BODY'S ENERGY OR CHEE TO FLOW.

"And if it does not run or run too fast, too slow or completely stops we call a stagnation that's when the disease starts and that's when most of the pain and all the other symptoms start to come out."

AND APPLYING PRESSURE TO THOSE PLACES RESTORES THE ENERGY FLOW AND STOPS THE PAIN. FOR THESE SMALLER CUPS, A DEVICE IS CLAMPED ONTO THE TIP TO PRODUCE THE VACUUM EFFECT. BUT FOR THESE LARGER CUPS, HERE'S HOW THE PROCESS WORKS. FIRE IS USED TO HEAT THE CUP. THE CUP IS PLACED ON THE SKIN. AS THE AIR INSIDE THE CUP COOLS, IT CREATES A VACUUM. THE SKIN RISES AND REDDENS AS BLOOD VESSELS EXPAND. THE CUP IS KEPT ON FOR ABOUT 10 MINUTES.

"And once you have better blood flow, most of the time your body itself can fix a lot of things."

HE CHOOSES THE SAME PRESSURE POINTS AS IF HE WERE USING ACUPUNCTURE. FOR SUSAN CULPEPPER, THE COMBINED THERAPIES KEEP HER ON THE TENNIS COURT.

"Yes I play probably two or three time a week." 6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30

8/11 Migraines Worse In Summer -

AMY BAILEY HAS BEEN SUFFERING FROM MIGRAINES SINCE SHE WAS A CHILD.

"In the right side of the back of my head around the right eyes and it feels like someone is punching me in the back of my head."

DOCTOR FARRUKH KHAN, A NEUROLOGIST FROM COLUMBUS NEUROLOGY ASSOCIATES, SAYS THEY GET 5 TO 7 PEOPLE COMPLAINING OF MIGRAINES EACH DAY.

"Migraines are a very common condition especially among women. Studies have shown that one out of three women will get a migraine headache sometime during their life."

KHAN SAYS THERE ARE A FEW THINGS THAT CAUSE MIGRAINES.

"Sunlight is a big trigger, hormonal changes in women and girls and certain foods with MSG are well known triggers."

BAILEY SAYS BEING IN THE SUNLIGHT CAN MAKE HER HEADACHES MORE SEVERE.

"Sometimes I just want to work in the dark and be in a completely dark room because of the light sensitivity that it causes you to have."

BAILEY HAS A SET ROUTINE EVERY NIGHT.

SHE TAKES MEDICATION AND GETS BOTOX EVERY THREE MONTHS.

KHAN SAYS IF YOU CONTINUALLY GET MIGRAINES BE CAREFUL WHAT MEDICINES YOU TAKE.

"Sometimes these medications do what we call medication rebound headaches which is when your body starts getting used to these medications and when a certain level of these medications are not present in your system you get an adverse headache."

BAILEY'S HAS BEEN A PATIENT OF DOCTOR KHAN'S FOR A FEW YEARS NOW AND SHE'S STARTING TO SEE RESULTS.

"my headaches have been a little bit better than what they used to be." 6pm PKG 1:30,11pm
Vo/Sot:45

8/15 N3N TSYS Teacher -
ANDREW HENDLEY, JR.
BELIEVES IN GETTING DOWN
ON HIS STUDENTS' LEVEL..
LITERALLY.

HE'S AN ENRICHMENT
TEACHER AT THE TSYS
LEARNING CENTER WHERE
HE HAS WORKED FOR FIVE
YEARS.

THIS AFTERNOON ANDREW
WAS TEACHING PRE-K STUDENTS
ABOUT WIND.

"What comes out of your mouth?
Try it. (blowing sounds) Moving air...
That's all wind is."

NEDDY SMITH IS THE
DIRECTOR OF THE TSYS LEARNING
CENTER.

SHE NEVER CEASES TO BE
AMAZED AT HOW WELL ANDREW
CONNECTS WITH THE CHILDREN.

"Initially we just hired him on as our
music teacher. And that evolved
tremendously into...now he also does
STEM which is science, technology,
engineering and math."

"What would happen...air...if you had
to spread out? Spread out. (blowing sound)
that's what makes wind, as the air spreads out."

ANDREW CREATIVELY
USED A FAN AND A LARGE TUBE TO
VIVIDLY DEMONSTRATE WIND
MOVEMENT.

"Now let's do our experiment.
Let's see if it works. I'm going to
turn the wind on, and I'm going to
put the scarf in this time. Ready?
"He is always willing to go that extra mile,
to challenge them just a little bit more.
Not just to rely on...oh, they're 3, they're 4,
there's no way they're going to understand
this concept. No, for him he says...let's try it.
Let's see how much they understand. And if
they do, let's take it to the next level."

ANDREW KEPT THE KIDS'

ATTENTION BY WEAVING WIND INSTRUMENTS INTO THE LESSON.

"So as I blow the air across, the wind makes noise."

"Music can be incorporated in anything. Sing, even if you don't think you're such a great singer, sing. It's part of the human experience. Incorporate that into what you teach."

ANDREW IS CONVINCED THAT PASSION IS A CRITICAL KEY TO WHAT HE DOES.

"Never stop learning yourself and always take what you're passionate about and bring it into the classroom and bring it to them, because kids can tell if you are into it or not." **6pm PKG Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

8/17 HW: Infant Mortality -

AUGUST IS GENERALLY CONSIDERED TO BE ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR MONTHS FOR BABIES BORN IN THE U-S. BUT IF YOU'RE AN EXPECTANT MOM IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA...

Sot "Georgia was one of the worst states to have a baby in, we don't mean to raise a child by any means, we mean really having a baby, everything from delivery budget to health care to the overall baby friendliness, Georgia was in the bottom five here."

WALLETHUB RANKED GEORGIA 46TH IN INFANT MORTALITY RATE, 47TH IN LOW BIRTH WEIGHT, AND 43RD IN THE RATE OF PRE-TERM BIRTHS. PEDIATRICIAN TOREY HARDEN WITH WEST GEORGIA PHYSICIANS SAYS ACCESS TO PRE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL HEALTH CARE WEIGHS HEAVILY IN THOSE NUMBERS.

"Then also access to neo-natal nurseries and ICU's even after the babies are born will all contribute to infant mortality as well as low birth weight infants and basically healthy pregnancies."

DR. HARDEN SAYS THERE ARE THINGS A WOMAN CAN DO TO HAVE A HEALTHY BABY, SUCH AS PRE-NATAL VITAMINS AND A HEALTHY DIET. THERE ARE THINGS SHE SHOULD AVOID AS WELL.

"Also avoiding things like smoking, alcohol, you know as well as other substances."

IN THE WALLET HUB SURVEY, HEALTH CARE ACCOUNTED FOR 50 POINTS. WAS THERE ANYTHING GOOD ABOUT GEORGIA? GONZALEZ SAYS YES, IN THE OVERALL DELIVERY BUDGET.

"So we looked at how much it cost for a cesarean delivery, for a conventional delivery, for both of those things with complications, which always tends to increase the price, but pretty cheap in Georgia on those things, that's before insurance."

ANNUAL INFANT CARE COSTS WERE FOUND TO BE MUCH CHEAPER IN GEORGIA AT AROUND 6,000 DOLLARS, RANKING IN THE TOP 15. **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

8/26 Girl Hope To Meet Idol -

TAYLOR PAYNE IS 11 YEARS OLD.

SHE LOVES COUNTRY MUSIC, AND ESPECIALLY BLAKE SHELTON.

HER PHONE HAS A WHOLE PLAYLIST DEDICATED TO HIM.

AND SHE KNOWS EVERY WORD.

"There's a neon light at the end of the tunnel."

WHEN SHE WAS IN FOURTH GRADE, SHE DECIDED TO WRITE THE PERSON WHO GOT HER INTO COUNTRY MUSIC A LETTER.

NOT KNOWING IF HE WOULD SEE IT.

"I was kind of hoping he would, but then again I thought he is so popular and he probably gets a lot of these. So, he may not get a chance to read it or respond, but even if he read it I would be thankful."

NOT ONLY DID SHELTON READ IT, HE RESPONDED.

ON TUESDAY, PAYNE OPENED UP A LETTER AND FOUND THE LETTER SHE WROTE A YEAR BEFORE.

AUTOGRAPHED.

"Oh my God, mom it's Blake Shelton!"

FOR TAYLOR, IT WAS A MOMENT SHE WILL NEVER FORGET.

AND JUST LIKE THE LYRICS OF ONE OF HER FAVORITE BLAKE SHELTON SONGS.

"God gave me you for the ups and downs."

SHE WILL NEVER FORGET HOW SHELTON WAS THERE FOR HER IN A DOWN TIME OF HER LIFE.

"When my poppa passed away, I listened to him a lot more than I usually did. I really used music as a way to pull me through that time and country music was a lot of that and Blake Shelton was a lot of that."

"Taylor says hearing back from Blake Shelton meant a lot, but being able to meet him would mean the world."

"I don't know how I would get to meet him, but I think it would be awesome because I look up to him so much. He is such a good artist and has such a good voice and he's just able to put a smile on my face I watch his music videos or listen to his music."

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

8/29 N3N Ron Anderson -

I INTERVIEWED RON ANDERSON
IN JANUARY OF 20-15.

I GUESS INTERVIEW IS NOT

EXACTLY THE RIGHT WORD.

I ASKED HIM ONE QUESTION..
WHERE HIS DESIRE CAME FROM
TO DO WHAT HE DOES.

A WONDERFUL SLICE
OF HIS LIFE STORY FOLLOWED.

"The desire is a long story and it's my
life's journey I think. And it comes from
a deep sense of desire for service."

RON POINTS TO HIS DAD AS
SOMEONE WHO EXHIBITED THAT
QUALITY.

"My father was an intensely kind person
which is an interesting sort of an idea.
But I remember seeing him as a manager
of people lean in and just say..what can
I do for you? And I have taken that to
heart."

NO DOUBT IF YOU KNEW RON,
HE PUT THAT SAME QUESTION
TO YOU.

WITH A HEART OF SERVICE
LIKE HE HAD, YOU MAY HAVE
WONDERED WHY RON DIDN'T
BECOME A PASTOR.

"I also dabbled briefly with the idea
of going into the professional ministry.
And I thought that's where I need to be.
But it turns out, it wasn't. And probably
good for the Baptist Church that didn't
happen. (laugh)"

RON MAJORED IN ENGLISH
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
AND BECAME A PUBLIC SCHOOL
TEACHER.

"A transforming event happened.
The principal walked into my classroom
one day and said Mr. Anderson, the drama
club is looking for a faculty advisor.
And I thought, sounds dangerous.
Count me in."

THAT EXPERIENCE OF
WORKING WITH KIDS KINDLED
A PASSION IN RON THAT SENT HIM
BACK TO THE UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA TO GET HIS MASTERS
IN THEATER.

RON BROUGHT HIS PASSION
TO COLUMBUS TO START THE
SPRINGER THEATRE ACADEMY
IN 1996.

AND THERE..OVER TWO
DECADES.. HE BUILT HIS
LEGACY..
6,000 or so children have come
through our program in the 18 years

I've been here. How many of them are professional actors? Out of 6,000 I would guess fewer than 50. Maybe 100. I don't know. I know some personally who are and very successful. Good.

Most of them are not, but they're working, they're doing something, they're contributing to the community, they're raising families, they're doctors, they're lawyers, they're mechanics, they're plumbers, they're teachers. They have a contribution to make to society and they are not afraid to make a choice and to be part of that community, to be part of something bigger. To serve. They have learned that that's far more important.

The theatre of me...who cares.
The theatre of we is what we do here." **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

9/6 Naturalization Ceremony -

"We're here on the steps of the federal courthouse here in Columbus, where nearly two dozen immigrants became full-fledged U.S. Citizens."
"and to the Republic for which it stands..."

THE PLEDGE THAT AMERICANS GROW UP SAYING EVERYDAY OFFICIALLY SEALED THE DEAL FOR 21 PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT INTERNATIONAL BACKGROUNDS TO BECOME U-S CITIZENS.

BUT BEFORE THE WORDS, CAME THE PROCESS...

"You just have to do it. Once you get the paperwork in, it just speeds by. But I wouldn't put it off. I wouldn't suggest thinking twice. Just go ahead and do it."

NEW CITIZENS LIKE HONDURAS-BORN CAROL BUCKLEY-BREEDEN SPENT MONTHS ON THE PATH TO CITIZENSHIP.

AND EVEN AMONG WHAT SOME CALL THE MOST DIVISIVE TIMES IN RECENT HISTORY... IMMIGRANTS CONTINUE TO FLOCK TO THE U-S TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITIES.

"What is remarkable about America, is that not withstanding our differences, we are still one."
"It's a lot of hard work to become a citizen, a lot harder than being born I think."

FOR BUCKLEY-BREEDEN, HER FAMILY HELPED TO EASE THAT DIFFICULT WORKLOAD.

"Fill out paperwork or anything dealing with my citizenship or green card...anything to do with immigration process, they were there."

CITIZEN APPLICANTS HAD TO SAY AN OATH, PROMISING TO DEFEND THE VALUES AND IDEALS OF THE UNITED STATES.

JULIA KEATING WITH THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION SAYS SHE SEES A DEEP DESIRE FOR IMMIGRANTS TO ADOPT OUR AMERICAN VALUES.

"We don't have to say this oath because we were born here. And I think that moved us more than anything These people really have to want to be a citizen of this country."

IT'S THE PLEDGE THAT STANDS FOR MORE THAN JUST A FLAG, IT STANDS FOR FREEDOM.

"It's actually overwhelming. I'm fighting back tears. But I'm excited."

"Whether it's a job opportunity, love, or just hope for a better life, those 21 now U.S. Citizens are one step closer to achieving their American dreams. On your side in Columbus, Joe Ripley, WRBL News 3." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

9/7 HW: Pediatric Cancer -

HER NAME WAS KERIS BEMBRY. KERIS MEANS LOVE, CHARITY. TO HER FAMILY, HER FRIENDS, HER TEACHERS, SHE WAS SO MUCH MORE. SHE WAS WISE BEYOND HER FOUR YEARS WHEN IT CAME TO HER SPIRITUALITY.

"Everyone that she come across she would somehow manage to bring a smile to their face or tell them something about spiritual growth or her spirituality and that was her."

IN OCTOBER OF 2013, THIS UPBEAT, FUN-LOVING 4 YEAR OLD STARTED HAVING HEADACHES. SHE EERILY DESCRIBED THE FEELING TO HER MOTHER.

"And she said mom, I feel like bones are churning in the back of my head. And that description was so alarming to me."

KERIS WAS DIAGNOSED WITH EVERYTHING FROM BRONCHITIS, TO ANXIETY TO A VIRUS, AND ULTIMATELY A BRAIN TUMOR.

"Based on the position and where it was, it was called DIPG, Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma, a pretty long name."

SIMPLY STATED, IT WAS A DEATH SENTENCE.

"It was a, it was cancerous, a cancerous tumor, and it was inoperable."

WORDS THAT DID NOT SCARE KERIS.

"I can remember one conversation where she told us that she wasn't scared to die you know she was just like mom, dad, I'm not scared to die you know I'm going to Heaven."

BUT THEY WERE GOING TO FIGHT. KERIS WAS GIVEN 6 MONTHS TO LIVE AT THE AGE OF 4. HER PARENTS TRAVELED WITH HER TO ATLANTA, HOUSTON AND CINCINNATI, FOR TREATMENT TRIALS THAT GAVE KERIS KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION AND HER SIXTH BIRTHDAY. THE TREATMENTS AND TRAVEL DEPLETED THEIR RESOURCES, BUT THEY SAY IT WAS WORTH IT. DEIDRE AND TREY BEMBRY CREATED KERIS KARES, A FOUNDATION THAT RAISES FUNDS FOR FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH DIPG, GIVING OTHER PARENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO FIGHT.

"Because their bills keep coming, their jobs are only flexible to an extent, and when you have a child that's dealing with pediatric cancer, everything in your life completely comes to a standstill."

"You get that kind of news and you kind of, you know you have to find some fight inside of your body inside your soul." **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

9/13 Public Safety Health Admin -

"It's definitely adding insult to injury."

SERGEANT LANCE DEATON WITH THE COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT DISAPPROVES OF CITY COUNCIL'S VOTE TO IMPLEMENT NEW HEALTHCARE INCREASES FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

"We're shortchanging our citizens, our taxpayers, and our public employees by just saying this is all we can do."

THE INITIAL VOTE FAILED TO PASS, BUT AFTER LEARNING OF POTENTIALLY HARMFUL CONSEQUENCES TO THE CITY'S BOTTOM LINE, COUNCIL APPROVED THE INCREASE.

"Health coverage rates have increased and they've given us little bumps to compensate for them."

THE CHANGES HAVE LEFT SOME EMPLOYEES IN LOWER INCOME BRACKETS...WORRIED ABOUT COVERING HEALTHCARE COSTS.

"They're not seeing the COLA making up for that full increase. So it was good to hear consideration of adjusting those pay grades to help offset costs for those groups."

"It takes a lot of time to process what's impacting this expense and how can we manage it."

SERGEANT DEATON SAYS THE RISING COSTS

WILL HURT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S ABILITY TO OFFER OVERTIME PAY, AS WELL AS OFFICER RETENTION.

"The goal is, and we've talked about it is to appropriately fund the plan and set these contributions where they need to be, we will not continue to incur these types of increases year after year."

EVEN WITH THE VOTE PASSED, COUNCIL STILL HAS PLENTY OF QUESTIONS ABOUT EXPECTED BUDGET SHORTFALLS WHEN IT COMES TO HEALTHCARE.

"My health insurance coverage is going to be \$736 a month. That is going to be roughly 17% of my base salary. How can I raise a family like that?" **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

9/14 4th Birthday For Porter -

"Beautiful blue eyes. Today is your birthday. It's from Nana. You're my superhero Porter."

IF THE BALLOONS DIDN'T GIVE IT AWAY, YOU SHOULD KNOW... IT IS PORTER HEATHERLY'S FOURTH BIRTHDAY.

HIS PARENTS, MICHAEL AND SARA CALL IT HIS 48 MONTH BIRTHDAY.

A TRADITION SINCE PORTER WAS FIVE MONTHS OLD.

"When you realize your child has a terminal illness, and they may only see two or three birthdays, we decided we wanted to celebrate him more than two or three times in his life."

WHEN PORTER WAS FOUR MONTHS OLD HE WAS DIAGNOSED WITH G-M ONE GANGLIOSIDOSIS, A RARE GENETIC DISEASE.

HIS CELLS LACK AN ENZYME THAT IS NECESSARY TO BREAK DOWN A CERTAIN PROTEIN, AND IT BUILDS UP ON DIFFERENT ORGANS.

HIS BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD ARE AFFECTED THE MOST.

THE HEATHERLY'S SAY THE DIAGNOSIS CHANGED THEIR LIVES IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.

"It's made us stronger together. It makes us look at things differently. It makes you realize what's important. It makes you realize that some of the day-to-day things that happen are minimal in comparison.

ALTHOUGH PORTER HAS NEVER SPOKEN A WORD, EVERYTHING HE DOES IS A GIFT TO THE FAMILY AND THE WORLD.

BUT THE FAMILY DOES NOT KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER PORTER WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE THAT GIFT.

"For the past six months or more, we've been kind of going on a day-to-day basis for his health. You can wake up one morning and he's having a lot of trouble breathing or something. It's kind of a roller coaster up and down. It is a day-to-day, and we really don't look too far out into the future. We just take one day at a time and make the most out of each day."

THAT'S WHY IT'S CALLED THE PRESENT BECAUSE EACH DAY IS A GIFT.

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

9/22 Psychology Behind Protest -

"They don't listen to us. You have to group up and say it in one group, so the bigger the group the bigger the voice."

"Police car and setting fires and getting the cargo out of the eighteen wheelers and setting them on fire in the middle of the interstate, that causes more problems."

"When people actually riot they listen, but they're listening to the wrong things."

DOCTOR FLORENCE WAKOKO-STUDSTILL, A SOCIOLOGY PROFESSOR AT COLUMBUS STATE, BELIEVES THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY IS LETTING OUT FRUSTRATION THAT'S BUILT UP FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS.

"The history of people trying and working so hard just to make ends meet, but at the same time the history of oppression and how particularly with African Americans and other minorities."

STUDSTILL BELIEVES THE PROTESTS ARE PART OF A CYCLE OF EVENTS. PROTESTING HAS BEEN USED FOR MANY YEARS, AS A WAY FOR THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES.

"The question is are the black men who are rioting, rioting because they belong to this particular group or they're just rioting without a reason? That's not true."

SUDSTILL KNOWS IT'S EASY TO GET WRAPPED UP IN THE HEAT OF THE MOMENT, AND BELIEVES PROTESTORS SHOULD FIGHT THIS BATTLE IN THE COURTS AND NOT ON THE STREETS.

"Use reasoning and say let's change the laws of the land and let's hold people accountable according to the law and follow through. This country is very good at that." **6pm PKG 1:30,11pm Vo/Sot:45**

9/28 HW: Women And Stress -

RESEARCHERS FED 58 WOMEN 2 DIFFERENT MEALS.

"One was a meal that was high in saturated fat, another was high oleic sunflower oil, that's a healthier oil, obviously, than saturated fat."

AFTER WOMEN ATE THE MEAL WITH SATURATED FAT, BLOOD TESTS SHOWED THEIR INFLAMMATION LEVELS WERE HIGHER. AFTER THE HEALTHIER MEAL, THEY WERE LOWER. THEN RESEARCHERS ADDED STRESS INTO THE EQUATION.

"To our surprise, if women had a stressor the day before their meal the type of fat didn't matter." IN THIS STUDY HEALTHIER TYPES OF FAT HAD NO BENEFIT FOR WOMEN WHO WERE STRESSED. THEIR INFLAMMATION MARKERS REMAINED ELEVATED.

"If we can't resolve the stress and the stress physical response, then that's what takes a toll on our health and can lead to increased risk for chronic diseases that are associated with chronic stress."

ONE WAY TO REDUCE STRESS. EXERCISE. CARLOS MOFFETT IS A CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINER IN COLUMBUS.

"Working out is definitely going to reduce stress simply because you've got to get your endorphines. You've got to find some way to release your endorphines. So I definitely would tell people anytime you're going through any type of depression or not getting enough sleep at night, you definitely want to make sure you get some type of workout, maybe do some cardio, in the morning, start your day off with the cardio and do some type of weight training."

OTHER WAYS TO REDUCE STRESS INCLUDE TAKE A TIME OUT TO CLEAR YOUR HEAD BY PRACTICING YOGA OR LISTENING TO MUSIC.

LIMIT ALCOHOL AND CAFFEINE WHICH CAN AGGRAVATE ANXIETY AND GET ENOUGH SLEEP **6pm Vo/Sot:45,11pm PKG 1:30**

