

KSCW

FIRST QUARTER

7am-9am

JAN. FEB. & MAR.

2008

CRIME Q-1

01/07/08

8am

The Grand Jury investigating Wichita abortion provider Doctor George Tiller meets for the first time tomorrow. Retired District Court Judge Paul Buchanan will oversee the investigation. The panel will look into whether Tiller provided illegal late term abortions. The state supreme court rejected a request by Tiller to quash the grand jury.

01/08/09

7am

Charges could come today in the case of a 19-month-old that died in the care of a baby sitter. The baby sitter told police the boy fell off the couch and stopped breathing Thursday night. He died Saturday morning. Police say the fall didn't explain the boy's injuries and arrested the baby sitter for aggravated battery.

01/09/08

7am

A teen in Wichita is charged with first degree murder. Police say Brandon Hardyway is known gang member. He's accused of shooting Robert Ridge. Both Hardyway and Ridge were in cars stopped at Murdock and Lorraine this weekend. According to police Hardyway says he didn't like the look Ridge gave him so he shot him. Police say it was a random shooting and no one in Ridge's car had gang ties.

01/11/08

8am

Police hope enhanced photos will lead to the suspects in a Wichita rape and robbery. ATM surveillance video caught the men on tape on both the east and west sides of Wichita. December 21st men broke into a woman's home near Douglas and Edgemoor. Sexually assaulted her then stole her Jeep and ATM card. Investigators say the men chose the woman at random. Neighbors say they know it could happen again...and wonder why no one's been caught. CrimeStoppers is offering 25-hundred dollars for information leading to an arrest. If you have any information call 267-2111.

01/14/08

7am

A Haysville doctor charged with over-prescribing medication to his patients complains about the conditions behind bars. In a letter to his family Doctor Stephen Schneider says his phone privileges have been taken away and that he's now in isolation for no reason. Schneider says he filed a complaint with Butler County jail. Schneider and his wife, Linda faces 34 Federal charges. Both are accused of over-prescribing medication that led to the deaths of at least four patients. U.S. Marshal's say the pair is being treated the same as any other prisoner in federal custody.

01/15/08

7am

Police crack down on teens not buckled up. A new law says officers can pull a car over if any teen inside isn't wearing a seat belt. Police spent yesterday's lunch hour ticketing several unbuckled students at Northwest High School. In just over an hour, officers issued nine tickets to Northwest students each one for 60 dollars. All this week officers plan to monitor high schools around the city.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

01/16/08

7am

Testimony continues today in the trial of a woman prosecutor say beat and burned her baby to death. Asa Adams is accused of killing her 18 month old toddler. Her attorneys say she made an honest mistake trying to save her daughter. In this morning's CrimeWatch...paramedics say they found the girl with severe burns on her legs and bruises all over her body. The defense says Adams was trying to give the child a bath. When the baby had a seizure, fell backward in the tub and stopped breathing. They say Adams was not trained to do CPR but still tried to perform it. Prosecutors say the little girl died from a lack of oxygen to the brain as a result of strangulation or several blows to the head.

01/17/08

8am

A man is shot but manages to drive himself to get help. Police say someone shot the man in the shoulder at Plainview Park yesterday afternoon. The man drove himself to a friend's house. He is in the hospital and is expected to be okay. Police are looking for a suspect.

01/18/08

8am

Police take two teenage boys and arrested them; accused of sexually assaulting an 11 year old girl. Police say it happened on North Volutsia while the girl was home alone. Investigators say she knows the boys. A 13 year old from Pleasant Valley Middle School and a 15 year old Southeast High student.

01/23/07

8am

Salina police investigate their first homicide in more than a year. Police found 56 year old Beverly Logan Monday at her home on East Iron Street. They went to check on her when she didn't show up for work. Officers say they're investigating her death as a homicide. Neighbors can't believe it happened. Investigators are still waiting for autopsy results to find out how she died.

01/24/08

7am

Salina police are looking for whoever killed Beverly Logan. She was found dead inside her home Monday. Detectives think whoever did it may have gotten hurt somehow; their asking for anyone with any information to call them.

01/25/08

7am

Four students are arrested after a fight breaks out in the hallways of West High. And police say some have gang ties. Staff and school resource officer broke up the fight in about five minutes yesterday; no one was hurt. The district says it sees very little gang violence at schools. It says its staff is trained in partnership with the Wichita police department to watch for gangs. The two students charged with battering a school official face expulsion; part of the school district's zero tolerance policy. To see the district's code of conduct, go to www.kwch.com

01/28/08

8am

There's still no sign of a man who police say robbed a Wichita bank Saturday. This is the man authorities are looking for. Police say he walked into the Intrust Bank at Harry and Webb and demanded cash; no one was hurt. If you have any information about the robbery call CrimeStoppers at 267-2111.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

01/29/08

7am

Security cameras are designed to catch criminals. But one burglar decides to take the camera too. This is video from A & L Roofing in Wichita. It shows two people pulling up in a pick-up then ripping the security camera off the building. Apparently the burglars forgot the video is recorded elsewhere. The owner is working with the security company to try and identify the crooks. Watch the entire video at our website at www.kwch.com

01/30/08

7am

A Haysville clinic is forced to close its doors. That order coming from the state saying Doctor Stephen Schneider's license is suspended at least temporarily. The clinic remained opened despite Doctor Schneider and his wife Linda being in jail accused of over prescribing pain medicine. A judge said the clinic poses an immediate danger to the public's health and safety. Employees inside the clinic say they are worried about patients who they say may not receive the care they need. The clinic says some pharmacies refuse to write prescriptions for patients. It's worried many of them will go through severe withdrawal.

02/01/08

7am

Police in Protection are investigating another possible meth lab. Investigators went into the home wearing protective suits. A warrant was served at the home on Tuesday but police there say it took until the next day to gather all the evidence. Five people were arrested and booked on drug charges.

02/04/08

Wichita police are still looking for whoever stabbed three people this weekend. Investigators say it happened during a fight outside the Flashbacks Club early Saturday morning. Police found two people hurt after stopping a car, a third person walked to Saint Francis Hospital a short time later.

02/05/08

7am

The man who started a national Amber alert this weekend is in jail. Police in Kansas City say Anthony Guerrero kidnapped his three-year-old son on Sunday. That night Guerrero checked into this motel in Texas using his real name. Police evacuated nearby rooms and waited for Guerrero to come out to arrest him. The boy was with him and was okay. Guerrero is accused of killing his estranged wife Nicolette Lyons-Reed and her 8-month-old daughter. Lyons-Reed was an on-line student at Emporia State University.

02/06/08

7am

Patient records of Wichita abortion provider Doctor George Tiller will not be turned over to a grand jury right away. The Supreme Court is temporarily blocking a subpoena for records from two thousand women. The grand jury is investigating whether Tiller performed illegal late-term abortions.

02/07/08

7am

In this morning's CrimeWatch...Wichita police are trying to piece together a bizarre sexual assault. It happened at the Huntington Place apartment complex on South Seneca Tuesday night. A 19-year-old woman tells police she was ambushed in her apartment by two men she didn't know. Neighbors don't know what to make of it. Police say they're trying to figure out if this was a random attack or if the woman was targeted.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

02/08/08

7am

In this morning's CrimeWatch...the man charged in the capital murder of a pregnant teen in Wichita. Could be back in court today. Elgin Robinson is accused of contracting to kill Chelsea Brooks who was 14 years old. In a hearing set for today attorneys are expected to ask the judge to dismiss the capital murder charge on jurisdictional grounds. Brooks was nine-months pregnant with Robinson's child when she was killed. Count on Eyewitness News to let you know what happens.

02/12/08

7am

Wichita police are investigating a school staff member for possibly having sex with a student. The district says a staff worker at east high staff is suspended with pay. He is accused of having sex with a female student. Officers started the investigation last week when it was reported.

02/13/08

7am

Also in the CrimeWatch...a man accused of killing his uncle and putting his body in a garden city storage unit pleads no contest to second degree murder. 23-year-old Guadalupe Rodarte waived his rights to a preliminary hearing yesterday and entered the plea. Guadalupe is set for sentencing in March. His brother Vicente pleaded guilty to the same charges last month. He is now serving a 13-year sentence.

02/15/08

7am

A group from New Mexico wants to make Kansas a national battleground over prescription drug use. Doctor Stephen Schneider and his wife Linda are accused of over-prescribing pain medication. Federal investigators shut down their clinic and say 56 of Schneider's patients have died from overdoses. The pain relief network from New Mexico says it will defend the Schneiders. Its lawyers have sued to get the clinic reopened

02/18/08

7am

A store in Wichita hopes surveillance video helps them catch a puppy thief. Take a look at the video from the Petland store in East Wichita. The store's manager says a woman in a red sweater put a Yorkie puppy in her bag while a salesperson was out of the room. The dog is valued at about 2-thousand dollars. If you recognize the woman or know anything about the incident call police.

02/19/08

8am

We should learn more today about a group from New Mexico's lawsuit against the Kansas Board of Healing Arts and the Federal government. Doctor Stephen Schneider and his wife Linda face Federal charges of over-prescribing pain medication. The state revoked Schneider's medical license and closed his clinic. The Pain Relief Network says the government is over-stepping its power and depriving patients of the medicine they need.

02/20/08

7am

Be careful as you warm up your car this morning. Wichita police say thieves are breaking into more and more cars. Last January there were 859 car break-ins. This January it jumped to more than 11 hundred. Adam Crowner says thieves broke into his truck. They stole his radio, stereo equipment, and DVD headrests and tore apart his dashboard. It happened right outside his apartment, but Crowner never heard a thing. Police say the best way to prevent it from happening to you don't keep valuables in your car.

CRIME Q-4 cont.

02/21/08

7am

A warning about our next story you may find it disturbing. A man arrested for criminal sodomy with an animal. 20 year old Joshua Coman is booked into the Sedgwick County jail. A Wichita family says Coman sent a text message saying he was in love with their dog Yody. This week they caught him inside their garage with the Rottweiler in the act. The dog was taken to a veterinarian and should be okay. Last September Coman was sentenced to six months probation for a similar crime in Reno County. He has not been officially charged in Wichita.

02/22/08

8am

Two people are critically hurt in a shooting at a bar in West Wichita. The shooting happened shortly before two at Lightning Joe's. That's near Kellogg and Ridge. Police say after last call two groups got into an argument and started fighting in the parking lot. That's were two men got out guns and started shooting. The bullets hit two other people; both of them were rushed to the hospital in critical condition. Police are still looking for the shooters.

02/26/08

7am

A fight between two neighbors leads to a stabbing overnight. That's new this morning...police say a woman called 9-1-1 saying she'd stabbed her neighbor around one this morning. When they arrived at this apartment on South Saint Francis they found a woman who had been stabbed several times in the back. She was taken to a hospital in critical condition. Investigators say the two women had gone out earlier in the night... and got into an argument. Police arrested the neighbor. No word on what the argument was about.

02/27/08

8am

Charges could come today against a high school teacher accused of molesting a student. Buhler High Debate Coach Richard Young was arrested yesterday on suspicion of indecent liberties with a child and solicitation of a child. The Reno County Sheriff's Department says the victim in this case is a male foreign exchange student. Parents who know young say they can't believe it. Immigration officials are also helping with the investigation which officials say spans across six states. Meanwhile Young is out of jail on bond. The Buhler district says he is on paid leave.

02/28/08

8am

A Topeka man will go to trial he is charged with killing a Kansas hunter. Authorities say Thomas Kent was illegally hunting when he shot from the window of a truck. That gunfire killed 18-year-old Beau Arndt. Arndt was goose hunting in this field when he was shot. Deputies say Kent fired at a decoy lying near Arndt but hit the teen instead. Kent then drove away. Kent's trial is scheduled for this summer.

02/29/08

7am

In this morning's CrimeWatch...a man tries to abduct a girl as she walks to school. Now police in Salina want to know if you've seen him. This is a sketch of the man he's in his mid-twenties, with dark hair, a short beard but no mustache. Police say yesterday he asked a nine year old to get in his car while she was walking to Schilling Elementary in Salina. When she refused he grabbed her arm but she got away. The man was driving a dark green mini-van. It has a dent on the passenger-side front corner. If you have any information call Salina Police.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

03/04/08

7am

Prosecutors drop charges against the man accused of killing a Wichita bar owner. Donovan Thompson was charged with first degree murder in Teresa Hastings' death last June. Police say Hastings was shot when she tried to keep as many as a dozen gang members out of her bar. Prosecutors say there is new information in the case that needs to be investigated. They could re-file charges once the investigation is finished. For now Thompson will stay in jail on two charges of drug possession.

03/05/08

7am

A fight with a Sedgwick County jail deputy put him in the hospital. Now the man's family is asking the NAACP to investigate. Edgar Richard suffers from schizophrenia and bi-polar disease. He was in the jail awaiting a mental evaluation when the beating happened. The Sedgwick County Sheriff's office says Richard tried to escape when jail workers gave him medication. The guard who got into a fight with him is on paid suspension. The NAACP said the sheriff's office did not handle the case correctly. The NAACP will also investigate why Richard's family is no longer allowed to visit him in the hospital.

03/06/08

Wichita police arrest four teenagers for a series of four arsons. Investigators say the teens set fire to vacant homes and a car in the hilltop neighborhood in southeast Wichita just to watch them burn. No one was hurt but the fires caused about 60 thousand dollars damage.

03/07/08

7am

In this morning's CrimeWatch...He says he put two children in the clothes dryer to entertain them. But police say Aron Pritchard was trying to punish them. Prosecutors say the boy had second degree burns. The children's mother testified yesterday and the Reno County district attorney questioned why she didn't get help for her kids. Pritchard is charged with child abuse and aggravated child endangerment.

03/10/08

7am

In this morning's CrimeWatch...a jury in Hutchinson could decide today how long a man who put his kids in a dryer will spend in jail. Jurors convicted Aron Pritchard of child abuse on Friday. Prosecutors say he put his girlfriend's two children in a clothes dryer as punishment.

03/11/08

7am

In this morning's CrimeWatch...we could learn more today about a suspicious death in Wellington. 25 year-old Lauren Gonzales was found dead in her home Sunday. She has three young kids who are now staying with relatives. Police say a man was also found in the house, he was shot in the neck. Friends say he was Gonzales' estranged husband. Investigators say it's too early to call it a murder-suicide attempt. They want to speak with Gonzales' husband... who is still in the hospital.

03/12/08

7am

A man in Stafford County may face charges for trying to teach an 11-year-old girl how to drive. The girl was behind the wheel of this pickup when it went out of control, rolled and crashed on a gravel road. The girl was taken to a hospital in Wichita. Her mother's boyfriend was in the truck with her he wasn't hurt.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

03/13/08

7am

Valley center police are investigating whether a coach had an inappropriate relationship with a student. Valley Center's superintendent says high school baseball coach and PE teacher Jay Miller has turned in his resignation. The school is not talking about it calling it a personnel matter. Police say they have not found anything criminal but say they still have to interview the 18-year-old girl involved. The school board will decide next month whether to accept Miller's resignation.

03/14/08

7am

Police now say a deadly shooting in Wellington is a homicide. Police say Lauren Gonzales was killed by her ex-husband inside their home. Oscar Gonzales is in stable condition at a hospital also with a gunshot wound. The Sumner County attorney calls this a case of murder attempted suicide.

03/17/08

7am

A burglar tries to steal cigarettes from a business in Wichita instead he loses his pants. Police say they could hear the man inside throwing cartons of cigarettes out of a hole in the wall. When he tried to crawl out he got his pants caught on a nail. Officers were able to get the man free but he went to jail without his pants.

03/18/08

7am

In this morning's CrimeWatch...Wichita police make an arrest in a homicide that happened a year and a half ago. Detectives say the 23-year-old suspect shot Milton Colbert several times in September of 2006. Colbert died near his home on North Chautauqua. Police did not consider the shooting random because of problems Colbert had with people in his neighborhood.

03/19/08

7am

Kids looked up to him, parents trusted him. Now a school principal of twelve years is charged with theft. The Great Bend school district placed Don Atkinson on administrative leave in November. That's when PTA members noticed money missing from Great Bend's Jefferson Elementary. Atkinson resigned a week later. He now faces 53 counts of theft and is accused of stealing more than 37-thousand dollars. Many parents say they can't believe it. The Sheriff's office says Atkinson is working out of state. County officials expect he'll turn himself in by the end of this week. Atkinson worked for Great Bend schools nearly 30 years.

03/20/08

7am

He's been convicted of animal sodomy twice. Now he'll spend six months in jail and register as a sex offender. Joshua Coman was in court to be sentenced yesterday. Last month a family in Wichita found him in their garage having sex with their Rottweiler. Yesterday a judge handed down the maximum sentence for Coman's crime. At the time Coman was on probation for the same crime in Reno County. He will also have to undergo mental treatment.

03/25/08

7am

In this morning's CrimeWatch...for the third time prosecutors file charges against a man accused in a deadly shooting. Donovan Thompson is charged in the death of bar owner Teresa Hastings last June. Police say Hastings was trying to keep gang members out of her bar when she was shot. Prosecutors dropped charges against Thompson earlier this month to investigate new information. They had dropped and re-filed charges once before after a witness in the case did not show up for a hearing. Thompson is expected back in court next month.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

03/27/08

7am

Also in this morning's CrimeWatch...Wichita police still searching for the person who shot an off duty officer. They do have some leads but are asking for your help. The officer was working security at Wichita Area Technical College Tuesday afternoon when the lone bullet hit his radio and was deflected. Police searched the area for several hours but didn't find the shooter. Yesterday the Wichita Area Technical College president talked to students and staff. Counselors were offered if necessary. Police are looking at surveillance video from the college. If you know anything about the shooting call 911.

03/28/08

7am

Police say they were caught in the act having sex in a park in Pottawatomie County. Now this teacher is out on bond after she was charged with unlawful sexual relations with a student. Katherine Harder taught at Manhattan High. Police say they caught her with a 17 year old boy in a car at Tuttle Creek State Park Wednesday night. She has resigned and is out on three-thousand dollars bond.

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

01/07/08

8am

Drivers heading to work this morning should avoid Hillside near Pawnee. That's because crews will begin demolishing the bridge over Gypsum Creek just east of Joyland. Crews will detour traffic to Pawnee, George Washington Boulevard, Oliver and 31st South. A new four-lane bridge is set to open in August.

01/08/08

7am

The end of forced busing is also an issue the Wichita school district is looking at. Starting tonight a series of public meetings will be held to answer questions. Tonight's is at the Boys & Girls Club it starts at 6-30. To see a full list of all the meetings you can go to our website at www.kwch.com

01/09/08

8am

Harrah's still has a chance to build a casino in Mulvane. After a citizen petition the Mulvane City Council approved annexing land near the turnpike where Harrah's wants to build. This annexation will give Harrah's another chance to get endorsed. Since Sumner County Commissioners only endorsed proposals for the Wellington area...an endorsement from the city would allow them to still be considered by the lottery board. Bob Knight's group with MGM says they will ask for a similar annexation.

01/10/08

7am

The downtown arena in Wichita officially has a name; the Intrust Bank Arena. Intrust will pay almost nine million dollars for the rights. At first the bank says it turned down the idea because it was too expensive. Then Cessna and Spirit Aerosystems got involved. Each will pay three million dollars to name the front plaza and concourse. Intrust says having all three companies involved made the project affordable. Money raised from the naming rights will go to the arena operating fund.

01/15/08

7am

There's a new detour if your commute takes you on West 13th Street this morning. Minisa Bridge near North High School is closed as city crews start a 10-month reconstruction project. The bridge will have new structural support and slightly wider lanes. The project will cost the city two-point-six million dollars to complete. A detour around the bridge will take drivers north to 21st Street. For a map of the detour go to our website at www.kwch.com

01/16/08

8am

Today the Mulvane city council will vote on whether to endorse a proposal from Harrah's for a casino near the Mulvane Turnpike exit. That comes after more than 15-hundred signatures were turned in asking for the endorsement. The group that gathered the signatures say Harrah's plan is better than the two proposals endorsed by the Sumner County Commission for Wellington. The attorney for the Sumner County Commission says they won't change their endorsement.

01/17/08

7am

Today the Mulvane city council will vote on whether to endorse a proposal from Harrah's for a casino there. That comes after more than 15-hundred signatures were turned in asking for the endorsement. While Sumner County commissioners put their backing behind two proposals for Wellington some in Mulvane say what Harrah's wants to build is a better plan. The attorney for the Sumner County commission says they stand by their endorsements and don't plan to change them.

COMMUNITY Q-1cont.

01/18/08

7am

Part of Wichita's water walk has been topped out! That means construction crews have reached the tallest point of this building. Yesterday they installed a steel beam that was signed by everybody on the project; along with a small tree and American flag. The water walk condominiums should be ready for occupancy this summer.

01/21/08

7am

Today the country stops to honor the legacy of civil rights leader Doctor Martin Luther King Junior. It's been almost 40 years since king's assassination. The Kansas African American Museum held this celebration of his life this weekend. It included a special focus on young people in the community. Events centered on Doctor King as a young man and how he lived and preached non-violence. The museum gave an award to honor the youth volunteer of the year. Historians say king was passionate about more than just civil rights. At the time of his death he was working to alleviate poverty and end the Vietnam War.

01/22/08

7am

Wichita State Basketball Coach Gregg Marshall is not headed to South Carolina, at least for now. He was connected to the top job there after South Carolina's coach said he was retiring last week. In a written statement Marshall says he hasn't had any contact with South Carolina. Most shocker fans say they hoped Marshall would stay but they were holding judgment until they heard from the coach. To read copies of Marshall's statement go to our website at www.kwch.com

01/23/08

8am

Supermodels and celebrities can be seen in Vogue magazine. And so can the Kansas Governor. The magazine interviewed Governor Kathleen Sebelius on how the democrat was elected in a Republican state. Sebelius tells the magazine it's not a matter of belonging to one party but being American. Sebelius was photographed for the magazine too, wearing an Oscar De La Renta gown in the capitol building. The magazine is on shelves now.

01/25/08

7am

The transition from empty lot is happening slowly but surely. The media got a tour of the site of the new downtown arena yesterday. The construction company says despite some tough weather they've been able to maintain their schedules. While it doesn't look like much now officials say by this summer you'll actually be able to see the structure take shape. The arena is set to be open by 2010.

01/26/08

9am

Via Christi plans a new cancer treatment center for Wichita. It will be built on Webb Road near K-96. Officials say the center will include a radiation center, breast biopsy capability, and chemotherapy treatment areas. They hope to have the six and a half million dollar facility up and running late next year.

01/29/08

7am

The Wonders of Kansas are whittled down from 24 to eight. More than 24 thousand people voted and helped boost tourism around the state. Here's a look at the winners. The Big Well in Greensburg, Cheyenne Bottoms and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, the Eisenhower Presidential Library, the Kansas Cosmosphere, the Kansas Underground Salt Museum, Monument Rocks and Castle Rock, Saint Fidelis Church and the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. Kim Hynes traveled to each Wonders site; you can see all of her reports at www.kwch.com

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

01/30/08

7am

The Wonders of Kansas are whittled down from 24 to eight. More than 24 thousand people voted and helped boost tourism around the state. Here's a look at the winners. The Big Well in Greensburg, Cheyenne Bottoms and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, the Eisenhower Presidential Library, the Kansas Cosmosphere, the Kansas Underground Salt Museum, Monument Rocks and Castle Rock, Saint Fidelis Church and the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. Kim Hynes traveled to each Wonders site; you can see all of her reports at www.kwch.com

02/01/08

7am

Wichita's Mid-Continent airport saw its share of snow yesterday. But that wasn't enough to close the runways. The airport says it kept at least one runway open closing one to clean then alternating. The airport runs friction tests on the runways making sure they're not so slick. It requires a driver slamming their brakes on the runway to see how much they slide. There were some delays and cancellations but most airport operations ran smoothly.

02/04/08

7am

One Wichita neighborhood trying to stop a plan by Dillon's to relocate its grocery store; neighbors near 13th and Waco will lose their Dillon's when the store moves to a new location this month. They say their community is filled with people who are elderly or low-income... and don't have a way to get to the new store more than a mile away. Neighbors are encouraging others to call the company's corporate office. Dillon's is relocating four of its smaller Wichita stores to three former Homeland Food locations.

02/07/08

7am

It may be a bit cold to think about motorcycles. But that's exactly what a few hundred people had on their minds in downtown Wichita yesterday. The main characters from the reality show "American Chopper" were in town. Paul Senior, Paul Junior, and Mikey unveiled their custom Viega bike. A crowd of fans showed up for pictures and autographs. If you can't wait for the chopper episode to air on March 20th we've got video of their Wichita visit on our website at www.kwch.com

02/08/08

7am

They risked their lives for their country and this morning a group of Kansas soldiers is happy to be home. Soldiers from the 731st Transportation Company returned home yesterday. The troops spent the last 14 months in Iraq. The soldiers say they're happy to be back and their families are happy to have them. 180 troops made it home safe. This was the groups' second deployment to Iraq.

02/12/08

7am

Where can you get a 100-thousand dollar house for 40-thousand? Three agencies are working on an affordable housing plan for tornado-ravaged town. The goal is to build 20 new houses with families able to move in this July. The homes will be valued at about a hundred thousand dollars but volunteer labor and donated materials may bring the actual cost to homeowners to 40-thousand. If you'd like to volunteer to help build the houses contact the United Way of the Plains or Mennonite Housing.

02/13/08

7am

The tax ended at the start of the year and today Sedgwick County commissioners will learn just how much was raised for a new downtown arena. For more than two years shoppers paid an extra one-percent in sales tax to build the arena. A final report will be given to county commissioners today. Earlier estimates say the tax raised about 205 million dollars. Count on Eyewitness news to let you know the final tally.

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

02/15/08

7am

New information this morning as Mulvane takes another step toward hosting a state-owned casino. Late last night the Mulvane Planning and Zoning commission passed a recommendation to re-zone property along the turnpike to allow a Harrah's Casino. The commission came to the agreement after hearing from more than thirty Sumner County residents. The commission's recommendation now goes to the Mulvane city council that has the final decision. Both the cities of Mulvane and Wellington are fighting for the Sumner County casino. Last week Sumner County filed suit against Mulvane for how the town annexed the land for the casino. Ultimately the State Lottery board will decide which city gets the casino. A law passed last year allows four state-owned casinos across the state.

02/18/08

7am

This may marks one year since a tornado destroyed Greensburg. This weekend a piece of Main Street returned. The Kiowa County Ministerial Alliance dedicated its new Care and Share store and food pantry yesterday. It's the first building to be rebuilt on the town's main street. Much of the labor and materials were donated. The store and food pantry should open sometime next month.

02/19/08

7am

Sports may come to a halt at one Kansas school. Earlier this month Saint Mary's Academy told a female referee she wasn't allowed to officiate a boy's game. That's because the school doesn't believe in women being in a position of authority over boys. The ref is now working at another school. The Kansas High School Activities Association has scheduled a hearing on the issue. It could remove Saint Mary's from its list of more than 300 approved schools.

02/20/08

7am

The Mulvane city council will hire a law firm to deal with a lawsuit from Sumner County. That's the decision after a meeting Monday. The lawsuit says Mulvane illegally annexed land for the Harrah's casino proposal. It says they can't jump the turnpike and stay connected to the city limit.

02/21/08

7am

Saint Mary's Academy near Topeka clarifying why it refused to allow a female referee to officiate a boy's basketball game. Referee Michelle Campbell says she was told she couldn't work the game because the school believe women shouldn't have authority over boys. The school's headmaster says the belief is that male role models are best for adolescent boys. He says the school has many female staff and teaches boys to respect all authority.

02/22/08

7am

State lawmakers also get an update on rebuilding Greensburg. Yesterday they were given an update on the progress since last May's devastating tornado. State funds will play a big part in rebuilding Greensburg. With plans to re-build environmentally friendly, officials say the cost will be higher than first expected. 95 percent of the town was destroyed by the tornado. Right now the city says rebuilding has begun on 100 homes and several businesses on Main Street.

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

02/25/08

7am

This week marks three years since Dennis Rader's arrest for the BTK murders; he remains behind bars for life as the story of his victims unfolds tonight at the Orpheum Theater. The film is called "Feast of the Assumption the Otero Family Murders." It tells the story of Charlie Otero from the time he entered his home and found four members of his family dead. The movie is tonight at seven, tickets are 15 dollars. The money raised goes to the B-T-K victim's fund. Charlie Otero and the film's director will answer questions afterward.

02/26/08

7am

Wichita's fixing more than 350 a day, but crews can barely keep up with all the potholes. A rough winter has potholes popping up all over the city. The potholes form as water gets into the pavement, freezes and thaws. All the bumps along the way are irritating area drivers. City crews have fixed more than 20-thousand potholes this year over 18-hundred miles of pavement; that's up 15-hundred from this time last year.

02/28/08

7am

Barton Solvents says it's moving its plant out of Valley Center but doesn't want to go far. President David Casten says the company's learned a lot since this explosion at the plant in July. He says Barton needs more space, farther from homes. But Casten says he doesn't want to move so far that it creates a hardship on employees.

02/29/08

8am

You may have noticed that Wichita's Keeper of the Plains has been lacking something lately. The firepots haven't been burning. The cold weather damaged parts of the igniter system. The company that made the pots says they are one of a kind; making it hard to find a solution. But they hope to figure it out by spring.

03/03/08

7am

Hundreds of Wichita kids are going back to school this week with brighter smiles. The Sedgwick County Oral Health Coalition hosted a free dental clinic this weekend. Dentists gave free exams and cleanings for children who don't have insurance. Dentists, hygienists, and other volunteers gave their time for free. They provided about 30 thousand dollars worth of services.

03/04/08

8am

The Hutchinson city council could decide today whether to send a sales tax extension to voters in November. Under the new proposal the Underground Salt Museum would receive five-percent of the tax. Right now all the money goes to street repairs, lower property taxes and the Kansas Cosmosphere.

03/05/08

8am

It may be March but crews in Salina are still cleaning up from the ice storm from December. Piles of limbs are still sitting around the city. The city is picking up residents' branches and hauling them here where they will later be burned. The city had hoped to have it done already but weather has delayed that. The city says so far it's picked up about 60 percent of the limbs.

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

03/06/08

7am

Kansas already has 627 cities and it could get one more. 70 people want to form West Valley, a new town west of Valley Center. The petitioners want a new town; to avoid being annexed by Valley Center. They took their case to the Sedgwick County commission yesterday. They say they moved out to the country to get away from city rules. If they were annexed...they say they'd have to pay more taxes and follow new rules. Sedgwick County commissioners will vote on the new city at another meeting. Valley Center does not support the move.

03/07/08

7am

In two months Wichitans will vote on a 350 million dollar bond issue. But supporters haven't started campaigning. If approved the bond will build new schools and fine arts and athletic facilities. A group against the bond is already getting information out. A pro-bond group is still gathering. It will announce its community leader. We took a look back at the 2000 bond...and found the day after the school board approved it. The group behind it was already campaigning. School board member Lynn Rogers says this time around they have an extra month and are confident they still have time to spread the word.

03/10/08

7am

It may have been three months ago but Hutchinson is still cleaning up from a December ice storm. 10 crews from North Carolina are set to begin work today. Cleaning up debris in Hutch. City officials estimate crews will clear 15 to 20-thousand tons of debris 500 tons everyday. They have until May first to finish the work.

03/14/08

7am

The Mulvane city council has endorsed MGM's proposal for a casino. Last week the council annexed land to the proposed site. Last night 18 people talked with the council then it voted three to two to endorse it. This will be the fourth casino plan for Sumner County that's been sent to the State Lottery Commission it'll pick what it says is the best one.

03/17/08

8am

A group of KU students are doing their part to help re-build Greensburg. The students built a new Community Arts Center in a Lawrence warehouse. They have now taken the building apart for the trek to Kiowa County. The building should arrive in Greensburg today where it will be re-assembled. The students hope to finish it by May 4th the one year anniversary of the tornado that destroyed the town.

03/18/08

7am

March Madness is here and this year the road to the final four will take two teams from Kansas to Omaha. That's where both KU and K-STATE will play this week in the same bracket and the same arena. KU is a number one seed. The Big-12 champions will play the big sky conference champion Portland State Thursday. Tip-off set for 11:25 in the morning. K-State plays Thursday night. The Wildcats are an 11 seed and take on USC at 6:10. This will be the Cats' first appearance in the tournament in a dozen years. If KU and K-STATE survive their first three games they'll meet in Detroit for the regional finals. We checked with both schools each received about 500-tickets for the opening round and are already sold out. But don't worry you can find brackets, projections even the games themselves on your computer. Just go to www.kwch.com

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

03/20/08

7am

It's a part of almost every small town in Kansas. And it's a big step in the rebuilding process in Greensburg. Ten months after a devastating tornado the city has a water tower again. Yesterday workers put together the 162-foot tower. Like the old one it stands above Greensburg's claim to fame the world's largest hand-dug well. A group of organizations and tax money helped fund the 600-thousand dollar project.

03/21/08

7am

The 2008 tournament has fans looking for merchandise. With two men's teams in the NCAA tournament and the K-State women's team making its tournament, t-shirts and other things are hot sellers at places such as Sports Time Fan Shop. While KU fans are used to the Jayhawks making the big dance the addition of the Wildcats this year may have changed their shopping habits. The store says things like hats, beanies and temporary tattoos are also big sellers.

03/25/08

7am

It wasn't on the agenda, but that didn't keep Barton Solvents from being discussed at tonight's Maize city council meeting. Barton is the valley center chemical company where this explosion and fire happened last summer. The company is looking to relocate in a larger plant and less residential area. Maize is one option. At tonight's council meeting close to a dozen citizens signed up to speak on the issue, even though the council wasn't scheduled to discuss it. We talked with one of them about his concerns. Maize city administrator Richard Lamunyon told us tonight there will be a public hearing before there is any decision to move forward.

03/26/08

7am

Wild West World cost 30 million dollars to open. Now a Tulsa company has signed a contract to buy the park for two million. Spectacular Attractions wants to reopen the park and put in 35 new rides. A judge still needs to sign off on the deal. To actually re-open the park the company will spend another four million. Park City will issue bonds and eliminate property tax for ten years. Spectacular Attractions hopes it can open sometime this summer. The company plans to offer compensation to Wild West World ticket holders. It doesn't know if it will keep the western theme or name.

03/27/08

7am

American and Delta Airlines say many of their aircraft will be back in service today after cancelling hundreds of flights. The two carriers are inspecting their fleet of MD series planes checking wiring in the hydraulic systems. That came after an FAA audit. American canceled more than 300 flights yesterday leaving passengers scrambling for other options. At least two American flights in and out of Wichita were cancelled yesterday.

03/28/08

7am

Come Monday expect traffic delays at one of the busiest interchanges in town. Construction along I-2-35 and Central hasn't even started but businesses say they're already feeling effects. Wichita is working on a three million dollar project to relieve bottle necks there. But businesses expect to lose customers who don't want to deal with construction. 99 Beers Wine and Spirits already decided to close instead of waiting until October for the project to be finished.

ECONOMY Q-1 cont.

01/18/08

7am

Child support payments taken out of checks and never distributed. That's what's happened in the last month at Hawker Beechcraft. The company says it sent the money to the Kansas payment center that collects child support but it somehow got lost. The payment center says as a result...51-thousand dollars in child support was delayed. Hawker Beechcraft tells us it sent a new check to the payment company. The company says it has cut those checks yesterday.

01/21/08

7am

More than eight months after a tornado destroyed Greensburg rebuilding efforts there may soon get a big boost. The city council could vote tomorrow on whether to approve the first phase of the city's new rebuilding plan. The plan is a blueprint on how the city should move forward. Phase one talk about the city's most pressing needs; among them zoning changes and finalizing a design for downtown. Phase two will focus on issues such as tourism and the economy. FactFinder 12 breaks down where building stands right now. As of January 14th 681 work permits had been issued. That includes 331 building or repair permits 99 permits for new homes and 39 permits for businesses. There are also plans to add a third exit for Greensburg off Highway 54.

01/25/08

7am

It's supposed to get you to spend money. But will the government's tax rebate come in time to head off a recession? Even if Congress acts quickly it could a while before you check is printed. The IRS will be bogged town in April with tax returns. It probably couldn't start the rebate process until May. Then comes mailing which could take 10 weeks for the 117 million families who would get a check under the plan. That would mean mid July before checks arrive. So who will get a rebate check? Individuals who pay income tax would get up to 600 dollars, working couples 12 hundred and those with children and additional 300 per child. Workers who make at least three thousand dollars but don't pay taxes would get 300 dollars.

01/29/08

7am

Family ties are what are bringing Obama to El Dorado. It's where his maternal Grandfather grew up. Clarence Kerns graduated in the class of 1935 with Obama's Grandfather, Stanley Dunham. Kerns said Dunham lived in El Dorado with his grandparents before moving to Seattle and eventually Hawaii. When the 90-year-old found out about Obama's visit, he started collecting photos, reunion updates and class notices to give to the presidential hopeful. The Kerns have submitted RSVPs for the event and hope to get a seat.

02/05/08

8am

It happens every tax season and this year is no different. Local tax preparers say fraudulent W-2's are showing up. H & R Block says people have altered their W-2's to try and get a larger refund. But many times those trying to trick the government don't know what they're doing. H & R Block has also had people who've tried to file at multiple office locations. That won't work either only one return goes to the IRS. That agency reminds you it's a Federal crime to file a fraudulent tax return. To keep your taxes on the up-and-up check out our daily tax tips at www.kwch.com click on the "Lifestyles" section.

02/08/08

7am

Taxpayers in Kansas and all across the country get ready for a little extra money. Last night Congress approved the president's economic stimulus package. The bill gives rebates of six-hundred to 12-hundred dollars to most taxpayers. The final version also gives older Americans and the disabled a 300-dollar rebate. The president is expected to sign the bill next week; rebate checks could hit your mailbox by May.

ECONOMY Q-1 cont.

02/14/08

7am

Tyson's slaughter operation in Emporia is officially closed. Yesterday was the last day for beef operations and processing which has the plant laying off hundreds. One employee says he thinks most laid off workers will move out of Emporia and transfer to other plants. There is some help for the laid off workers. There will be a job fair this Saturday afternoon in Emporia. It will be held from one to four in the afternoon at the Flint Hills Technical College.

02/19/08

7am

An explosion at an oil refinery in Texas could have you paying more at the pump. Five people were hurt at the explosion at this refinery in Big Springs, Texas. No word on what caused the blast that sent a huge plume of black smoke into the sky. The refinery produces about 70 thousand barrels of oil a day. Since Kansas receives some of its gas from Texas experts say you could soon see higher prices at the pump.

02/25/08

7am

The Pentagon could announce today who will build the next generation of refueling tankers. And the deal could mean thousands of jobs for Wichita. The Air Force is looking to replace an aging fleet of KC 135's. One option is a modified Boeing 767. If Boeing wins the 40-billion dollar contract it would mean jobs for about 44-thousand people. They say four-thousand of those would be in Kansas.

02/27/08

7am

Boeing is still waiting to hear whether it has won a u-s military contract to build a new fleet of refueling tankers. The government delayed yesterday's announcement to later this week. The Air Force is looking to replace an aging fleet of KC 135 tankers. Boeing is up against the parent company of airbus for the 40 billion dollar contract. Boeing says a win would mean jobs for 44-thousand people across the country. At least three to five-hundred of those would be in Wichita.

03/03/08

7am

It cost about 30 million dollars to build but it may sell for a fraction of that amount. Park City Mayor Dee Stuart confirms Spectacular Attractions has an unsigned sales contract in the works for Wild West World. The Tulsa company is offering two million for the property and plans to spend an additional 4 million dollars to reopen the park and bring in 35 rides. Former owner Thomas Etheredge declared bankruptcy last year and closed the park. Most of the attractions have since been sold at auction.

03/04/08

7am

We wanted to know what you think about the tanker contract. In a FactFinder 12 scientific survey we asked 500 people in Kansas. Will Boeing losing the contract have a major impact on the Wichita economy? 68 percent of you think it will while 26 percent say impact is minor. When asked if the lowest bid comes from a foreign company should it be accepted? 15 percent say it should and 80 percent say it should not. For more on the tanker decision including more comments from lawmakers goes to our website at www.kwch.com

03/07/08

7am

Boeing will meet with the Air Force today to find out for the first time, why it lost the contract to Airbus. Lawmakers tell us, if Boeing decides to protest the deal they'll do whatever's necessary to help. They say they could even pull funding on the project.

ECONOMY Q-1 cont.

03/20/08

7am

It's a quest for answers. Congressman Todd Tiahrt sent a letter to the Air Force today requesting all documents involved with the tanker deal including a list of government officials that weighed in on the contract and both companies' bids. In late February, the air force awarded a 35-billion-dollar contract to airbus to replace the aging KC 135 fleet instead of Boeing. Tiahrt wants a congressional hearing to investigate changes in regulations and illegal subsidies. Tiahrt says he has bipartisan support in congress to question the contract decision.

EDUCATION Q-1 cont.

01/08/08

7am

The list is long and the price to fix everything is high. Last night the Wichita school board learned major upgrades to facilities will cost half a billion dollars. And to pay for it the board will probably look to you for a bond issue. Here's what the bond issue would cost you. The district is asking for more than 300 million dollars to do everything it needs. On a hundred thousand dollar home that would increase your property taxes about 32 dollars a year. A 200 million dollar bond would increase your taxes 23 dollars a year. A 100 million dollar bond would raise taxes 11 and half dollars a year. The board is expected to vote next month.

01/09/08

7am

Another meeting set for tonight on the Wichita school district's proposal to end forced busing. For nearly 40 years the district has bused students based on their race. Now Superintendent Winston Brooks has a plan to end it. Last night parents attended the first in a series of meetings about the plan. They broke into small groups where several issues were brought up including how to stay involved in the child's education. Tonight's meeting is set for 6:30 at Hamilton Middle School. For dates for future meetings log on to our website at www.kwch.com

01/11/08

7am

This morning FactFinder 12 shows you some of what the last bond issue went for. Two brand new schools were added to the district. Six schools were torn down and re-built. One of those is currently under construction. The bond issue also put air conditioning in every school building. And it added more than 30 safe rooms to school buildings around the city. That gives kids a place to go during severe weather.

01/23/08

7am

Technology is also helping Wichita parents keep in touch with their kids' schools. USD 259 is implementing Parent-Link. It's a program that lets schools e-mail and telephone parents to tell them about upcoming events un-excused absences or emergencies. Principals say it won't replace the letters they send home to parents it will just be a new addition. The alert system for elementary schools started this week. They'll start being used in middle and high schools next month.

02/08/08

7am

Monday the Wichita school board is expected to vote on a proposed 350 million dollar bond issue; and a majority of members say they'll support it. The bond money would be used to build new schools, add classrooms, and improve athletic facilities. South East high school needs new tennis courts. There are cracks on the surface and pieces of metal coming up out of the ground. It also needs a new pool. The current one is too small to teach gym classes. If the school board approves the bond it will go to a public vote in May.

02/11/08

7am

350 million dollars for Wichita schools; tonight the Wichita school board will vote on a proposed bond issue. The money would build new schools... add classrooms... and upgrade athletic facilities throughout the district. Under the proposal property taxes on a one-hundred thousand dollar house would go up about 40 dollars a year. Board members are expected to approve it. If they do it will go to a public vote on May 6th. Eyewitness news will be at tonight's meeting count on us to let you know what happens.

EDUCATION Q-1 cont.

02/12/08

7am

Last night the Wichita school board approved a 350 million dollar bond issue. It would build new schools and make improvements throughout the district. But that won't happen unless voters approve it in May. Voters get their say in a special election on May sixth which will cost an estimated 75-thousand dollars. With rising construction costs, the district says waiting until the general election would cost taxpayers even more.

02/13/08

7am

We wanted to know what you think. In a FactFinder 12 scientific survey we asked 500 people in Wichita if 350 million dollars is too much. 51 percent say it is, 10 percent say it's too little and 34 percent say it's just about right. When asked if you think the Wichita school board will act responsibly with your money 39 percent believe the board is mostly responsible with tax dollars, 47 percent say it acts mostly irresponsible with tax money. For a detailed look at the district's proposal go to our website at www.kwch.com

02/27/08

7am

Lots of booths, lots of people, and lots of choices; last night more than five thousand people came out to the Wichita School District's Choices Fair. It's a chance for parents to learn more about special programs, magnet schools and neighborhood schools. Families can choose which is best for them. This was the First Choices Fair in its 19 year history that did not have to deal with the issue of forced bussing. Several school principals told us the families of students who are bused are planning to stay at their current school because their children are already established.

02/28/08

7am

The teenager Richard Young's accused of molesting was a foreign exchange student. Young has been involved with foreign exchange programs for years. Here's what happens with foreign exchange students; private agencies place them with families in school districts across the state every year. Yawn Schneider left Germany seven months ago to live with the Coffman family in Newton. Either the host parents or student gets training of what to expect. Host families have to give family information and get background checks.

03/03/08

7am

Wichita school Superintendent Winston Brooks heads to New Mexico this week to interview for a job. Brooks is one of six finalists for superintendent in Albuquerque. That school district has nearly twice as many students as Wichita and pays considerably more at 260-thousand a year. Brooks says a head-hunting firm contacted him about the job a few weeks ago. With a 350-million dollar bond issue on the table in May both Brooks and board members say they don't think the news will have an effect. In both 2002 and 2004 Brooks was a finalist for superintendent jobs in other states but stayed in Wichita. For more on those past offers or to read Brooks statement head to our website at www.kwch.com

03/04/08

7am

The first group against a 350 million dollar proposed school bond issue organized last night. Americans for Prosperity held this forum saying it's important for voters in Wichita to be informed before they vote. The folks on the panel said schools could use the space they already have more effectively and point to enrollment numbers that have remained steady for several years. But they also say... They're not against children or a good education. So far there has been no organized "vote yes" campaign. By law, the district can only present facts, but is not allowed to campaign. The bond goes to voters in a special election on May 6th.

EDUCATION Q-1 cont.

03/06/08

7am

Teachers across Kansas telling kids to sleep more and eat better; many districts including Wichita are in the middle of state assessment tests. Schools are judged based on student's performance. A school counselor we talked with says students should try to do their best but should not stress out about the test. Teacher's advice for parents and kids. Get a good night's sleep, eat a healthy breakfast and have a calm morning with no distractions. And parents should avoid making appointments for their kids during testing.

03/07/08

7am

Continuing our coverage of the school bond issue; supporters of the Wichita school bond issue hope tornado safety will help convince you to vote for the money. The district says the bond issue will build new safe rooms. Tornadoes hit three schools in Wichita back in 1999. The twister that hit Jefferson Elementary damaged the building and destroyed a portable classroom. Right now, 36 schools have safe rooms. The bond issue would build 60 new storm shelters.

03/10/08

7am

Winston Brooks is leaving Wichita. The Wichita school district superintendent has accepted the same position in Albuquerque, New Mexico. It's a story you saw first on Eyewitness News. Brooks had been one of six finalists for the New Mexico job. He was in Albuquerque all weekend for a series of interviews. Yesterday evening a majority of that city's board of education chose Brooks for the job. Brooks told reporters in Albuquerque it's hard to leave Wichita after all his years here. Brooks will earn an annual salary of 250-thousand dollars a year in Albuquerque with benefits will bring that total to 273-thousand. Albuquerque offered Brooks a three-year contract.

03/12/08

7am

A state association says it won't allow discrimination after one school rejects a referee because she's a woman. Last month, Saint Mary's Academy said it didn't want a woman refereeing its boy's basketball game. The Kansas State High School Activities Association will now draft a policy preventing schools from discriminating against refs. Michele Campbell says she's pleased and would be willing to go back to Saint Mary's. The activities Association says beliefs aside if school leaders don't follow the same rules as everyone else they'll have to find their own refs.

03/28/08

7am

A Wichita student says he could get expelled because he's gay. Now other students are rallying behind him to ask the district to change its anti-discrimination policies. Jimmy Ineegez says he's accused of sexually harassing another student. He told the student about a rumor questioning the student's sexuality. Ineegez says he did nothing wrong and feels like the district is targeting him. He wants sexual orientation added to the districts anti-discrimination policies. The district says its current policies protect all students. You can read the districts complete anti-discrimination policy at our website www.kwch.com

03/31/08

7am

The search for a new Wichita school superintendent could officially begin tonight. The Wichita school board is set to vote on whether or not to let Winston Brooks out of his contract. Brooks recently took the same job in Albuquerque. He has two years left on his contract. The school board says a new superintendent likely won't be hired before the start of next school year.

ENVIRONMENT Q-1

01/17/08

8am

What made driving hard for many in Western and Central Kansas wasn't the snow but the wind blowing it around. All the blowing snow made it hard for drivers to see. But transportation officials say it actually helped them by keeping the snow off of the roads. While several accidents were reported most were minor.

01/22/08

7am

As you head out the door this morning give yourself some extra time to get where you're going. Road crews have been working all night to treat roads but watch for slick spots especially on bridges, intersections and side roads. Emergency crews worked dozens of accidents when the freezing drizzle hit yesterday afternoon. Three people were hurt when this truck rolled near K-254 and Hillside. And a woman flipped her minivan near 37th and hydraulic. Officers say all the accidents are because of people not driving carefully. This morning the emergency accident reporting plan is in effect in Wichita and Sedgwick County. If you're in an accident and there are no injuries, both cars are drivable and no alcohol is involved; exchange information and fill out an accident report at a police substation, Quik Trip within 24 hours. You can download an accident report on our web site at www.kwch.com

02/06/08

7am

Kansas cleaning up from the latest round of winter weather...up to 10 inches of snow fell in northwest Kansas. That's led to a number of school delays and closings this morning but Wichita schools are in session. For a complete list go to www.kwch.com we'll have another look at your forecast coming up next.

02/13/08

7am

It could be the end of the paper or plastic era as the push for recycling increases. The U-S uses between 500 billion and one trillion plastic bags every year. That adds up to about 12 million gallons of oil used to make the bags... which usually end up in the landfill. Now more Kansas retailers like Whole Foods are offering a green alternative reusable cloth bags. The bags are also available at places like Wal-Mart and Dillons. To find out how to recycle plastic bags or to find re-usable bags log onto www.kwch.com

02/19/08

7am

A billion gallons of contaminated water threaten to pollute the Arkansas River. Right now the water is inside a mine in Leadville, Colorado. But health officials fear it could make its way downstream to Kansas as snow melts. A heavy snowpack and melting is creating fears that the mountainside will burst sending the water gushing into the nearby river. Health officials here in Kansas think the pollution will be trapped in Colorado reservoirs before reaching our state. The Arkansas River is used for drinking water in some communities. Colorado's governor is asking for federal help to keep the contamination under control.

03/03/08

7am

It may feel like winter this morning. But it was more spring-like weather that caused problems for us yesterday. Severe storms left behind some minor damage in South Central Kansas. Cowley County dispatchers tell us a grain bin near Winfield collapsed and strong winds ripped the roof off a barn near Udall. Jim Epperson sent us this storm shot of a small tornado that touched down near Mylan. It did not cause any major damage. And this video from Storm Team 12 storm chaser Scott Roberts came from the area around Anthony showing penny size hail covering the ground. Stay ahead of the next storm with text me 12 severe weather and breaking news alerts. Sign up for free at www.kwch.com

ENVIRONMENT Q-1 cont.

03/06/08

7am

The National Guard says a December storm was the most expensive ever to hit Kansas. The ice and snow knocked out power to thousands of customers across the state. The newest damage estimate is 381-million dollars. The Guard says the damage was particularly bad for rural electric cooperatives that lost many meters and transmission lines.

03/11/08

7am

The city of Hutchinson has a big mess to clean-up; it's been left behind by the increasing pigeon population. With growing property damage and health concerns, local businesses brought in pest control experts to attack the problem with toxic corn. Cameras are used to make sure only pigeons get the feed. They've not trying to eliminate pigeons just limit the number in certain areas.

03/14/08

7am

Clean-up continues in Hutchinson from December's ice storm. A North Carolina company started cleaning up limbs and branches around the city on Monday. They only reached people's homes yesterday. Residents say they've had the debris piled up in front of their yards since the storm but waited for the city to haul the piles away. The total cost of the clean-up will be nearly one million dollars. The federal government will cover all but 15-percent of that.

03/19/08

7am

It was a rainy start to the week and now some home restoration companies have a lot of work. All the rain left some basements under water. The rain saturated the ground and caused sump-pumps to work extra, and some failed. We caught up with restoration workers who say clean-up is not easy. Experts say prevention is always better than clean-up. This damage will cost about 5-thousand dollars to repair. But buying a good sump-pump with a battery back-up wouldn't have even cost half that.

03/24/08

7am

Forecaster said these floods could be a preview of what may happen this spring when snow in the Rockies begins to melt. Snow-levels in Colorado are at a ten-year high. When snow melts there the National Weather Service predicts rivers including the Arkansas will rise; just how quickly and by how much remains to be seen. But if there is flooding the Adjutant General's office says the National Guard is ready. A spokeswoman says the Guard has more helicopters and Humvees available than last year. But she says Kansas is short on trailers used to haul heavy equipment. Some raised doubts about the state's ability to respond to repeated disasters after last year's Greensburg tornado and flooding in central Kansas.

HEALTH & SAFETY Q-1 cont.

01/07/08

7am

In this morning's Healthwatch...doctors say they're slowly making progress against a respiratory illness that left Wichita hospitals with few open beds for children. Wesley Medical Center says it's been seeing so many babies and kids suffering from the respiratory virus RSV they don't have enough beds to put them in. This weekend they say there were some open beds but they're sure they'll be full again soon. RSV has symptoms like a common cold. It's dangerous for babies because their lungs aren't fully developed yet. For a more detailed about RSV go to our website at www.kwch.com

01/11/08

7am

In this morning's HealthWatch...Wichita has a distinction no one would want. It has more sick kids with a respiratory virus outbreak than anywhere else in the nation. The outbreak started back in November and now some hospitals are running out of pediatric beds because of it. Of 200 cities monitored, Wichita had 65 percent of its tests come back positive for the virus.

01/14/08

7am

It's a simple click that can save your life and now it can save your teen some cash. Starting today Wichita teens between 14 and 17-years-old could face a 60-dollar ticket if they're not wearing a seat belt. That can be the primary reason they're stopped. The state law went into effect last summer. Until now, officers have handed out warnings. Today Wichita Police say those will turn into tickets. Teens think it will have an impact. The driver is ticketed if the passenger not belted in is under 14-years-old or if the driver themselves is not wearing a seat belt.

01/15/08

7am

In this morning's HealthWatch...one of the most popular cholesterol drugs may cut your cholesterol but it won't reduce plaque in your arteries. The admission comes from the makers of Zetia which is also combined with Zocor and sold as Vytorin. What's more a new study shows the drug may actually increase plaque which can elevate the risk of heart attack or stroke. Doctors say don't quit taking it until you've talked to your doctor but you can likely expect changes. Congress is investigating why consumers didn't find out sooner.

01/21/08

7am

Wichita police are looking into the death of an infant this weekend. The boy was just a week old and wasn't breathing when officers got to this home near 21st and Hillside yesterday morning. Paramedics performed CPR but the child later died at the hospital. Police don't know if the death is an accident, the result of a medical condition or something else. In Wichita police investigate all cases where infants die.

01/22/08

7am

When the ice hit emergency rooms filled up. As people left work and headed home some got in accidents while others fell on slippery sidewalks. That kept paramedics busy. At times yesterday all 20 local ambulance crews were out and they had 25 more calls to handle. That all led to busy emergency rooms. Wesley Medical Center saw at least 33 patients because of the ice. Via Christi hospitals treated at least 60 patients because of the weather.

HEALTH & SAFETY Q-1 cont.

01/25/08

8am

More information about an accident that caused this train to derail near Whitewater this week; the Highway Patrol says two cars were stopped at the tracks when the driver of a semi went around the cars crashing into the moving train. Authorities aren't sure why he passed the stopped cars.

01/28/08

8am

A Sedgwick County man is in fair condition after crashing his ultra-light plane into a field over the weekend. Gary Phillips of Bentley lost engine power causing his plane to go down and cartwheel through this field near Valley Center Saturday. Phillips was the only person in the plane when it crashed. Two other ultra lights were flying with him but they landed safely.

01/30/08

7am

Many towns are doing it but the state could be next for a smoking ban. Three senators are pushing for the state-wide ban. Under the proposal each county would vote whether it wants the ban. It would ban smoking in all public places including restaurants, bars and casinos. A similar bill stalled last year.

02/04/08

7am

We should get more information this week on how a woman died in Winfield. Carrie Elizabeth Collins boyfriend found her dead inside her apartment Saturday morning. But police believe the woman may have died on Thursday she's 28 years old. Collins mother tells us she had a seizure disorder and wonders if that's what killed her. Police are waiting for autopsy results to determine the exactly what happened.

02/11/08

7am

A Wichita woman is rushed to the hospital after her clothes catch fire. It happened Sunday night at a home in Northeast Wichita. Investigators believe the woman was cooking when her clothes came in contact with the burner. When firefighters arrived they found a small fire in part of the home's living room and the woman lying on the floor. She was taken to a Wichita hospital where she remains in critical condition.

02/12/08

7am

In this morning's HealthWatch...Sedgwick County schools battle a Chicken Pox outbreak. So far this year 29 cases are reported. Nearly half the cases reported in all of last year. Symptoms include fever and an itchy rash. It is highly contagious and spread by coughing and sneezing. You can get the Chicken Pox vaccine at the Sedgwick County Health Department. It's usually covered by insurance. Its 15 dollars for uninsured.

02/13/08

7am

In this morning's HealthWatch; more information this morning about a chicken pox outbreak in Sedgwick County. More than 50 students have missed school in Maize, Derby and Clearwater because of it. While there is a vaccine for the itchy virus... the state health department only started requiring it for students entering the school system a few years ago. The majority of the students infected got the first dose, but not the recommended booster. The Health Department will provide the Chicken Pox Friday in Derby at 222 Madison, it's recommended for ages 12 months to 12 years. The clinic will last from 1:30 to 5:30 in the afternoon.

HEALTH & SAFETY Q-1 cont.

02/14/08

7am

Debate continues at the statehouse on a state-wide smoking ban. The proposal would prohibit smoking in most public places, including workplaces, bars, restaurants and casinos. Some have suggested removing a section allowing counties to vote on whether they want to be part of the ban. The bill's sponsor said without that option it has no chance of passing.

02/15/08

7am

With a lot of people sick right now with colds and flu; the local health clubs are trying to keep it from spreading. The YMCA says it tries to teach all of its members to spray down machines before and after they use them. Besides disinfecting the equipment the Y says there are other things you can do to stay healthy. Experts say one of the best things to stay healthy is by washing your hands.

02/18/08

7am

A HealthWatch alert this morning...as animal abuse leads to the biggest beef recall in American history. Some 143 million pounds of frozen beef have been recalled from this California slaughterhouse. The business is under investigation for abusing cattle. The company supplies meat to the Federal school lunch program and some fast-food chains. U.S. health officials say the health threat is small.

02/19/08

7am

In this morning's HealthWatch...more information about the largest beef-recall ever, 143 million pounds. We warn you... Some of the video your about to see is disturbing. This humane society undercover video shows workers at a California slaughterhouse poking and prodding sick cows. They're trying to get them to their feet for slaughter. The government bans such animals from human consumption because they are more likely to have diseases. The plant is now shut down. Two workers face jail time. The California company sold meat in 36 states including many school lunch programs.

02/29/08

7am

He's in jail charged with over prescribing pain medication; but patients of Doctor Stephen Schneider say they're the ones being punished. Today a federal judge will hear arguments on whether his patients can get their pain medication. Since Schneider's license was revoked last month his patients say they can't get their prescriptions filled. Kansas state law does not allow pharmacies to fill prescriptions from a doctor who's no longer practicing. Some of Schneider's patients say they also haven't been able to find a new doctor and have medical problems not related to pain... Like diabetes. Doctor Schneider and his wife Linda are accused of illegally prescribing pain medication which led to 56 patients dying.

03/07/08

7am

Covering Kansas; Triple-A says it's time the state puts more restrictions on teenage drivers. Currently Kansas is one of four states that don't have graduated licensing systems that limit teens driving at night or with passengers. A state Senate Committee is studying such restrictions now. Triple-A says traffic crashes are the leading cause of death among Kansas teens. And limiting the distractions they deal with behind the wheel could change that. A study from triple-a says accidents by drivers ages 15 to 17 cost kansas over 4-hundred- 60 million dollars State Legislators are considering changing the law to give teens have more experience before they begin driving on an unrestricted license.

HEALTH & SAFETY Q-1 cont.

03/10/08

7am

In this morning's HealthWatch...there could be more than you know about in your drinking water and investigation by the associated press found large amounts of prescription drugs in the nation's drinking water. The drugs include antibiotics, over-the-counter medications, even sex hormones. Although scientists say the amounts are tiny... they're worried about the consequences of long-term exposure. To see what areas were tested and find out how you can safely dispose of your prescriptions go to our website at www.kwch.com

03/12/08

7am

The government regulates how many hours truckers can drive. Truckers are allowed to work 14 hours a day. But only 11 of those can be on the road. The other three are for pit stops and loading. Every day truckers log the time they start and stop. The log is required if they're pulled over or get into an accident. Truckers like Bill Schneider say the rules make sense because they give him time to rest. After a 14 hour day truckers must have ten consecutive hours of rest. For more on trucking regulations and a statement from the company on the accident go to our web site at www.kwch.com

03/14/08

7am

His girlfriend lived in the bathroom for two years. Now he may face charges for not getting her help soon enough. The Ness County Sheriff recommended mistreatment charges to the county attorney. The couple lives in this Ness City mobile home. Last month the boyfriend called 911 asking for help. Emergency workers found her stuck to the toilet. She had lost feeling in her legs. Crews had to break the toilet seat which was still attached to the woman when they brought her to a Wichita hospital.

03/18/08

7am

Workers finish adding razor wire to the El Dorado correctional facility. Crews are now working on moving the exercise areas from behind the cell houses to in between them. The prison says doing so will allow guards to keep a closer eye on inmates. Both projects are an attempt to beef up security at the prison after the escape of two inmates last October. Jesse Bell and Steven Ford broke out with the help of a prison employee. All three were caught in New Mexico.

03/24/08

7am

Federal Emergency Management officials are urging Kansans to buy flood insurance. The government says only one-point-three percent of Kansas home carried flood insurance last year. They say everyone living in areas of low to moderate risk should have insurance. Nearly a quarter of the claims filed in 2007 were from people living in these areas. We've put a link to the National Flood Insurance website on our website at www.kwch.com

03/26/08

8am

Wichita police investigating a baby's death; the one-year-old died after officer found her unconscious and not-breathing at this Wichita day care. The daycare providers told police they put the child down for a nap and when they went to check on her she wasn't moving. Family tells us Kailee Hunley was found with bruises on her neck...something may have gotten wrapped around her. We've confirmed that Kailee is the daughter of Katie Cornejo. She's the step-mother charged in the death of two-year-old Daytona Robertson. Cornejo is awaiting trial on that charge but was not involved in this latest incident.

HEALTH & SAFETY Q-1 cont.

03/28/08

7am

Wichita police investigating a baby's death; the one-year-old died at a hospital... after officers found her unconscious and not-breathing at this Wichita day care. Yesterday the state suspended the day care's license. In the paperwork state regulators say the baby sitter put Hundley in a car seat that was too small for her. And was not checked on for over two hours when the child was found limp, slumped over and her lips were blue.

POLITICS Q-1

01/09/08

8am

Some Wichitans keeping a close eye on last night's results. Wichitans for Obama gathered to watch results come in. After Iowa's win they were hoping Barack Obama would come out on top again. One supporter says Obama's campaign is about more than winning an election. They say he's bringing people together and re-engaging them in democracy. For the first time in more than 20 years Kansas will hold a caucus next month. Count on Eyewitness News for continuing coverage of campaign 2008 on air and on-line at www.kwch.com

01/14/08

7am

State lawmakers are back to work in Topeka today and the 2008 legislative session looks to be a busy one. The session starts this afternoon. Among legislation under consideration are tougher penalties for employers who hire illegal immigrants. Also there's a 227-million dollar health care reform package being pushed by Governor Sebelius. Lawmakers will also consider more money for education. And debate a possible state-wide smoking ban. They'll revisit last year's denial of an application to build two coal-fired power plants in Southwest Kansas. Some lawmakers want to limit the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's regulatory power.

01/16/08

7am

Mayor Carl Brewer outlines his vision for Wichita in his first ever State of the City address. The mayor talked about training people for 45-hundred new aviation jobs, forming a youth council to keep gangs out of Wichita and getting a city-wide a smoking ban. He also announced several new businesses for water walk comedy club "The Funny Bone" and "Wet Willie's Daiquiri Bar". Read the entire State of the City at our website at www.kwch.com

01/17/08

7am

Smokers another tax hike may be on the way. In the governor's budget she asks for a 50-cent a pack tax increase for health care. She wants future casino money to reduce state debt and repair college campuses. And she wants to give state workers a two-and-a-half percent pay raise. Her budget is not final, lawmakers will have to agree. You can see the entire proposal at our website at www.kwch.com

01/18/08

7am

Today we're set to find out who governor Sebelius has picked as the state's new Attorney General. Her choice will replace current A.G. Paul Morrison. He's leaving the office after admitting he had an affair with someone he worked with. That woman also accused him of professional misconduct; Morrison says that didn't happen. The announcement is set for 11 this morning... Watch for updates on-line at www.kwch.com or sign up for free Text Me 12 Alerts and get the news on your cell phone or e-mail as soon as it happens.

01/25/08

7am

Super Tuesday is less than two weeks away. On February 5th, 24 states will hold primaries or caucuses including Kansas. Republicans will meet in 67 places across the state. Today is the last day to register if you want to participate. Democrats will have caucuses in 40 locations where you can register at the caucus site that night.

POLITICS Q-1 cont.

01/28/08

7am

Out going Attorney General Paul Morrison must decide what to do with money in his campaign account. Morrison will leave office Thursday after resigning over a sex scandal. Morrison has nearly 50-thousand dollars left over. State law allows him to give it back to donors, political organizations, state government or a charity.

01/29/08

7am

President Bush delivers his final State of the Union address. He talked about Iraq, the economy but focused mostly on what he calls unfinished business. The president outlined his goals for his final years in office, among them, passing a 150-billion dollar economic stimulus package, vetoing bills that don't reduce Congressional spending. The president also urged continued patience in Iraq and said the surge is producing results.

01/30/08

7am

We wanted to know if Obama's visit would change your vote. In an exclusive FactFinder 12 scientific survey we asked 500 people in Kansas Are you more likely to vote for candidates who come to Kansas? 31 percent say you're more likely, eight percent say you're less likely, and 61 percent say it makes no difference.

02/06/08

7am

This weekend Kansas Republicans get their chance to caucus. The GOP caucus is Saturday morning. Check in starts at nine the caucus begins at 10. Representatives from different campaigns make presentations on their candidate then voting begins. It will be a secret ballot and you only vote for one candidate. Count on Eyewitness News for complete coverage of the Kansas caucuses. With details on the process and complete results at www.kwch.com

02/08/08

7am

McCain will make a brief stop in Wichita near Mid-Continent Airport this afternoon. Huckabee will make his way through the state stopping in Olathe, Topeka and Garden City as well. Experts say the visits are likely to help voters make last minutes decisions and may lead to an even bigger turnout. Here's a look at the specifics Huckabee will speak at Jabara Airport during an event that starts at eleven. He may even play with local band "Colorblind". When he's done he'll head to Topeka then Garden City. The event for John McCain starts at 1:40 at a hanger north of the main terminal at Wichita's Mid-Continent Airport. Meanwhile Ron Paul's campaign tells us that their candidate does not plan to visit Kansas today. But supporters have organized an event tonight at six at the Airport Best Western which could include visits from Ron's son and brother.

02/12/08

7am

Kansas votes Republican and has for the past 40 years. But after seeing how many people showed up at the caucuses here last week; some question if that will change. As we told you yesterday roughly 37-thousand Democrats braved the cold on Super Tuesday to caucus. Compared to only 20-thousand Republicans on Saturday. Republicans in this area say many didn't see the need to caucus with Senator John McCain's strong national lead. Democrats agree... but believe change is on the way. For the latest on the race for the White House go to www.kwch.com and click "Campaign 08".

POLITICS Q-1 cont.

02/14/08

7am

Today the Kansas Senate could give final approval to a bill allowing two coal-fired plants in southwest Kansas. But the version contains no new rules on carbon dioxide emissions. The bill is in response to the decision in October-blocking sunflower electric from building the plants outside Holcomb because of environmental concerns. The Senate vote was 32 to 3 to drop emissions rules. The House is working on its own energy bill.

02/15/08

7am

A bill in the Kansas house could bring back the issue of slots at the Wichita Greyhound Park. The track shut down after Sedgwick County voters decided it couldn't have slots last year. But supporters say it failed because the question on the ballot was confusing. If the bill passes it could give Sedgwick County another chance to vote on slots.

02/19/08

7am

A final vote could come today in the Kansas House on two coal fired power plants in southwest Kansas. Last year the State rejected a permit for the plants near Holcomb. The bill in the House lets the company build the plants and does not include limits on carbon dioxide emissions. The House gave the bill first round approval. But the plan has to get at least 83 votes to avoid a veto from Governor Sebelius.

02/20/08

7am

The state house and senate are now working on a compromise that could allow two coal plants in southwest Kansas. Sunflower Electric wants to build the plants just outside of Holcomb. Last October the state health department denied Sunflower's permit saying it would harm the environment. Yesterday the house passed a bill that would allow the plants. The Senate passed their own version last week. The House vote was short of the two-thirds majority needed to override an expected veto from the governor.

02/22/08

7am

A Federal judge in Kansas City says a potential class-action lawsuit against American oil companies can proceed. The claim is that companies overcharge customers when fuel temperatures rise above 60. It says that gives you less energy per gallon of gas and costs consumers billions. The oil industry says law requires gas to be sold by volume not energy output.

02/25/08

7am

Back at the State House a State Senate Committee could vote today on whether to advance a state-wide smoking ban. But chances of it passing are in doubt after lawmakers removed bars and casinos from the bill. It originally banned smoking in most public places. Now it applies mainly to restaurants and work places.

02/29/08

7am

Today the Kansas House could vote on changes to state stalking laws. Last week Jodi Sanderholm's father testified in Topeka asking lawmakers to learn from his daughter's death. Jodi's law would more clearly define stalking making it easier to send offenders to trial. Prosecutors say Jodi was stalked before being kidnapped and murdered.

POLITICS Q-1 cont.

03/03/08

7am

Leaders from Kansas are hoping to find out why Boeing lost the contract to build new air force refueling tankers. Today the Kansas congressional delegation is set to meet with the department of defense and the Air Force. The lawmakers want an explanation why the 40 billion dollar contract went to a partnership between Northrop Grumman and France-based Airbus instead of Boeing. Congressman Todd Tiahrt says even though Northrop Grumman says it will create new American jobs Airbus doesn't have the best track record. Boeing officials are waiting for a meeting with the Pentagon before deciding on whether to appeal the decision. Coming up in our next half-hour we'll break down just how much Boeing and Airbus planes are dependent on American jobs.

03/06/08

7am

The Air Force could tell Boeing today or tomorrow why it picked an Airbus plane for new refueling tankers. Continuing our coverage of the tanker decision; yesterday congress started hearings on the award of the multi-billion dollar contract. The head of the Air Force told a Senate panel that the plan submitted by Northrop Grumman and French plane-maker Airbus cost less and was less risky. But Kansas lawmakers say the competition was unfair. Congressman Todd Tiahrt is calling for the deal to be suspended until congress can investigate it further. Boeing could appeal the decision. Company leaders say they won't decide that until after the Air Force debriefing.

03/07/08

7am

Covering Kansas this morning...a bill that allows two coal-fired power plans in Hholcomb is now on the governor's desk. The bill also limits the authority of the Health and Environment secretary; the same person who denied a permit for the plants. The Senate passed the bill Thursday. Governor Sebelius promises to veto it. But the house may not have enough votes to override that veto, it needs 84. It passed the bill with only 75. Find out how your lawmakers voted at www.kwch.com.

03/12/08

7am

Lawmakers in Topeka re-introduce a bill banning funeral protests after the State Supreme Court strikes down the current law. The law was a response to protests by the Topeka based Westboro Baptist Church at soldier's funerals. It prohibits picketing within 150 feet of a funeral. It included a provision requiring the Supreme Court to approve its constitutionality before it went into effect. The court says that provision is unconstitutional; a law must be enacted before it can be challenged in court. In response, sponsors eliminated that provision and reintroduced the bill in the house. The new bill is expected to pass.

03/17/08

7am

This week Kansas lawmakers hear testimony about a drug commonly known as "Sally D". The hallucinogenic herb is legal and available in several stores in Wichita. Drug counselors say it's popular because users can get high and results do not show up on a urine drug test. Lawmakers in the senate unanimously passed the bill. A House committee takes testimony on it today. The drug is banned in eight states.

03/25/08

7am

Kansas lawmakers have not given up on the idea of two coal-fired power plants. Sunflower Electric wants to build the plants near Holcomb. Last week, Governor Sebelius vetoed a bill that would have allowed the plants to be built. Yesterday a House Committee began work on a new version. Unlike the previous bill it sets new limits on the plants' carbon dioxide emission.

POLITICS Q-1 cont.

03/26/08

7am

A final vote is expected today in the Kansas House on a new funeral picketing law. A bill passed last year was struck down by the Kansas Supreme Court because of a provision that said the law would not take effect until it was upheld by the court. The new bill does not include that provision.

KSCW

FIRST QUARTER

10pm

JAN. FEB. & MAR.

2008

CRIME Q-1

01/01/08

10pm

She was on the run with a homicide suspect when he was captured in Mexico. Tomorrow Victoria Martens may be released from a Wakeeney juvenile facility. She was brought there last week after being found in Mexico. She is pregnant with Israel Mireles' child. He faces charges for having sex with her as a minor. He is also charged with the capitol murder of Emily Sander. As we reported Mireles says he got in a fight with a man at this El Dorado motel after leaving a bar with Sander. Now Mireles says he's innocent that the other man was there.

01/02/08

10pm

Prosecutors file charges in the hunting death of a Lyon county teen. It was last month when 18 year old Beau Arndt was shot. Now Thomas Kent is charged with manslaughter. Prosecutors say Kent fired at decoys from a pick-up on this road. Arndt was lying next to them in this field and was hit.

01/03/08

10pm

A Kansas police chief is arrested in a sex sting. Dennis Nowlin is charged with lewd and lascivious behavior. He is the police chief in the town of Ellis. As we reported last month, plain clothes officers conducted the sting at Circle Cinema on South Seneca. They arrested four people including Nowlin. Wichita police notified the Kansas Law Enforcement training Center of the arrest. The Hays Daily News reports Nowlin is on indefinite suspension.

01/04/08

10pm

They say his credibility is shot and he should move on. The people of Ellis don't understand how their police chief was arrested. Dennis Nowlin faces charges for lewd and lascivious acts. He was arrested last month in a sex sting at this Circle Cinema on South Seneca. Plain clothes officers arrested five people in the sweep. Residents of Ellis say they're shocked. Nowlin is on administrative leave. He's been with the Ellis Police Department for nearly 20 years; three of those years as Chief.

01/05/08

10pm

Today marks one year since the death of Cowley College student Jodi Sanderholm. Her parents did not hold a public remembrance choosing instead to remember their daughter in private. Sanderholm's former dance team didn't do anything public either. Last year team members and Sanderholm's friends gathered outside the Ark-City dance studio after Jodi went missing. This year one of the instructors says she thought about organizing a vigil but changed her mind. The team held a late practice instead and gave members the opportunity to share their memories. Justin Thurber goes to trial in June for her murder.

01/06/08

10pm

Police do not have any suspects in a burglary at a Wichita nursing home. Investigators say someone broke into a storage unit at Presbyterian Manor on West 13th late last night or early this morning. They made off with power tools and two vehicles; one of them a 1994 Chevy truck. If you have any information about the theft contact Wichita Police.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

01/07/08

10pm

He threatened to drive through city hall then actually did it. Just after 12-30 this morning, a 31 year old man crashed his Lincoln Town car into the east doors of the building. Earlier in the night police told him to turn down music in his car. He told an officer he'd run into city hall and sped away. The man drove through an elevator bay and out the parking garage. City officials are relieved no one was hurt and there is no structural damage. Concrete barriers have been place around city hall to prevent it from happening again. This summer, the city also plans to install more security.

01/08/08

10pm

A baby sitter is charged with Wichita's first homicide in 2008. This afternoon Heidi Dieball appeared before a judge. Prosecutors charged her with first degree murder. Dieball was taking care of her roommate's son and took him to the hospital saying he fell off the couch. Police say that didn't explain the boy's injuries. The boy later died.

01/10/08

10pm

The man accused of killing a pregnant Wichita teen was back in front of a judge today. Elgin Robinson is charged with the capital murder of 14-year-old Chelsea Brooks. She was nine months pregnant when she was murdered almost two years ago. Today a judge denied a defense's request to have hearings leading up to the trial closed to the media. The defense argued that coverage of the hearings could prejudice potential jurors. The judge disagreed. Prosecutors say Robinson hired another man to kill Chelsea Brooks. Authorities say he was the father of the baby she was carrying. Robinson's trial is scheduled for September.

01/11/08

10pm

A former football coach is convicted of sexual relations with a student. Anthony Coker pleaded no contest in the case. He faces seven months in prison. Next month he'll be sentenced. Coker resigned as Buhler High School assistant football coach.

01/12/08

10pm

Police in Leavenworth are calling it a murder attempt. They say someone tried to blow up a house a pregnant woman shares with another woman. Both made it out safely. At this point, police do not know who the target was. Authorities say whoever put the bomb in the home placed it in a crawl space. Police are not saying if they have any suspects.

01/13/08

10pm

Continuing the CrimeWatch this Sunday...police are looking for thieves who stole thousands of dollars in cigarettes from this Wichita business. Officers responded to an alarm at Kansas Candy and Tobacco on West Irving last night. By the time police arrived, the thieves were already gone along with 27-hundred dollars worth of merchandise. Police do not have any suspects.

01/14/08

10pm

Police crack down on teens not buckled up. A new law says officers can pull a car over if any teen inside isn't wearing a seat belt. Police spent today's lunch hour ticketing several unbuckled students at northwest high school. In just over an hour, officers issued nine tickets to Northwest students each one for 60 dollars. All this week officers plan to monitor high schools around the city.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

01/15/08

10pm

Accused of over-prescribing pain medication; will a Haysville doctor lose his license? Doctor Stephen Schneider and his wife are linked to the deaths of 50 patients. A judge decided they will stay in jail until their trial. Meanwhile, the state wants to suspend Schneider's license and close his Haysville clinic. A hearing officer has 30 days to decide if that should happen.

01/16/08

10pm

A man is shot but manages to drive himself to get help. Police say someone shot the man in the shoulder at Plainview Park. The man drove himself to a friend's house. He is in the hospital and is expected to be okay. Police are looking for a suspect.

01/17/08

10pm

Police take two teenage boys into custody; both are accused of sexually assaulting an 11 year old girl. Police say it happened on North Volutsia while the girl was home alone. Investigators say she knows the suspects; a 13 year old boy from Pleasant Valley Middle School, and a 15 year old Southeast High student. The two were arrested for indecent liberties, kidnapping and burglary.

01/18/08

10pm

Some Hays High School parents let their kids stay home today after they find out someone made a threat at school. Nearly a third of the students weren't in school due to what started back in November. School officials say someone carved a threat in the boy's bathroom about bringing a gun to school on January 4th. The school investigated but the threat was dismissed because school was not in session. Last week, the rumor started that someone would bring a gun today. And some parents didn't want to take the risk. Police were at the school today. School officials investigated the threat and call it a rumor. They say parents shouldn't be alarmed.

01/21/08

10pm

A Wichita teenager is shot in the head. It happened at this apartment complex on South Saint Claire. After the 17 year old was hit officers say he ran to a home on South Elizabeth. So far police have no suspects. They don't know yet if the shooting was gang related, but neighbors say it's still scary. The teen was taken to the hospital where he underwent surgery.

01/22/08

10pm

Another man is charged with a Wichita man's murder. Today John Sampson was charged with first degree murder and aggravated robbery. Last month Frederick Smith and Corey Logan were charged in the case. Prosecutors say they shot 47 year old Stanley Bloom in his home in a drug related robbery. Sampson will be back in court next month.

01/23/08

10pm

He shot the Greenwood County Sheriff. Now a judge sentences him to die for it. Three years ago Scott Cheever killed Sheriff Matt Samuels while he was trying to serve a search warrant. Besides Samuel's capitol murder Cheever was sentenced for attempted murder of four other officers he fired at. Cheever was given a chance to speak but didn't. Samuel's wife Tammy spoke about the life her husband led. Cheever plans to appeal to the state supreme court.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

01/24/08

10pm

When her daughter was shot police say she waited more than an hour to take the child to the hospital. Now trial is set for a Wichita mother. Aspen Jackson is charged with endangering a child; her boyfriend Owen Nave faces charges for having a gun as a felon. Today a judge set their trial for April. In November Jackson's seven year old daughter was shot at this Wichita apartment complex. The girl is okay and is now in foster care.

01/25/08

10pm

New information on a Hays man's standoff with police nearly five hours after it began; and tonight it's over. The man who started the standoff is dead. Around 3:30 this afternoon a former employee walked into this wireless company. Police say he threatened the manager with what looked like a gun. The manager evacuated the building. Officers evacuated at least a city block around the business and tried to talk with the man. The Swat teams found the man dead. Police believe he shot himself.

01/26/08

10pm

Wichita police are also investigating a shooting. Around four this morning police say a man in his late teens or early 20's arrived at Wesley Medical Center in critical condition. A short time later a second victim came in with a gunshot wound to the ankle. Police believe the shooting happened near Central and Cleveland.

01/27/08

10pm

An early morning bank robbery tops tonight's CrimeWatch...this is the man Wichita police and the FBI are looking for. Police say he walked into the Intrust Bank at Harry and Webb around nine and demanded cash. No one was hurt and after getting the cash, the man left the bank on foot. He was last seen walking west through Dillon's parking lot. If you have any information about the robbery you asked to contact Wichita police or Crimestoppers.

01/28/08

10pm

Security cameras are designed to catch criminals but one burglar decides to take the camera too. This is video from A & L Roofing in Wichita; it shows two people pulling up in a pick-up then ripping the security camera off the building. Apparently the burglars forgot the video is recorded elsewhere. The owner is working with the security company to try and identify the criminals.

01/29/08

10pm

A Haysville clinic is forced to close its doors. That order coming from the state saying Doctor Stephen Schneider's license is suspended at least temporarily. The clinic remained opened despite Doctor Schneider and his wife Linda being in jail accused of over prescribing pain medicine. A judge said the clinic poses an immediate danger to the public's health and safety. Employees inside the clinic say they are worried about patients who they say may not receive the care they need. The clinic says some pharmacies refuse to write prescriptions for patients. It's worried many of them will go through severe withdrawal.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

01/30/08

10pm

Wichita abortion Doctor George Tiller is ordered to turn over thousands of patient records to a Grand Jury. The Grand Jury is investigating whether Tiller provided illegal late term abortions. In court today, Tiller's attorneys argued turning over the records would violate the women's privacy. The judge disagreed and ordered Tiller hand over the records. The ruling is a victory for Kansans for Life, the group that petitioned for a Grand Jury. The records involve up to 2-thousand patients over the last five years who had an abortion after 22 weeks. But before it sees them each record will be reviewed by an independent doctor and attorney. The women's names will not be included in the records. To see today's testimony go to www.kwch.com

02/01/08

10pm

A 23-year-old mother is charged with her infant's death. Megan Mott made her first appearance today for second degree murder. Prosecutors say she fractured her three month old child's skull which led to his death. The boy was being treated at Wesley for RSV when nurses discovered the injuries. Mott is being held a 100 thousand dollar bond.

02/03/08

10pm

A stabbing in Wichita's Old Town sends three people to the hospital in critical condition. Police say the three were stabbed during a fight outside the flashbacks club early this morning. When officers arrived they stopped a vehicle with two people bleeding inside. A third victim walked into Saint Francis hospital a short time later. So far police do not have any suspects.

02/04/08

10pm

Accused of killing his estranged wife and her daughter tonight Anthony Guerrero is in custody. Kansas City police say he did it to kidnap his three year old son Seth. An amber alert was issued. Last night Guerrero checked into this Texas motel using his real name. In the middle of the night police evacuated nearby rooms then waited for Guerrero to come out to arrest him. They found the boy inside his father's room. He was not hurt. The mother 23-year-old Nicolette Lyons-Reed was found in her Kansas City home dead with her 8-month-old who was not Guerrero's daughter.

02/08/08

10pm

The first man charged under Alexa's law is back in Kansas. Opening tonight's CrimeWatch...Andrew Guerrero arrived in Wyandotte County this afternoon. He's charged with killing his pregnant ex-wife and her daughter in Kansas City last weekend. Prosecutors say Guerrero then fled to Texas. That's were authorities found him and the couple's 3-year-old son in a motel. The boy is okay. Guerrero waved extradition and now faces the death penalty if convicted of the murders. Alexa's law makes it a separate crime to hurt a fetus.

02/09/08

10pm

A thief stabs a Wichita security guard then drives off. New at ten...police say a guard at York International spotted the man leaving the building with computer parts. The guard recognized him as a member of the cleaning crew. When he confronted him the man cut the guard with a box cutter. Paramedics took the guard to the hospital with minor injuries. The suspect was last seen in a white pickup with a blue topper.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

02/11/08

10pm

A school security guard is arrested accused of injuring a student. The officer is hired by the school district to do security at heights high. He's not a Wichita police officer. The student says he got involved...when he saw the officer roughing up one of his friends. That's when he says the officer crossed the line...and grabbed him. Davis says at first police handcuffed him. But after police talked with teachers and students who saw what happened they arrested the officer instead. The officer is suspended with pay pending the outcome of the investigation.

02/14/08

10pm

It's what he feared for months. Not only was his wife dead but police found her body buried under a Wichita home. Jennie Heltsley disappeared in December. The residents at this home on North Market decided to dig up their concrete basement floor because of an odd smell in the house. Police found Heltsley's body under the concrete. Kevin Inkelaar married Heltsley last May. He says she had a drug problem but she was a good person. Police say Chilo Hernandez live in the house when the body was buried. He's in jail on unrelated charges.

02/15/08

10pm

Two escaped inmates from the El Dorado prison now face Federal firearms charges. A Grand Jury in New Mexico indicted Jesse Bell and Steven Ford today. They were already charged in state court. Bell and Ford escaped from a recreation yard at the prison in October. They were captured two days later in grants new Mexico. Prosecutors say the two will be tried in New Mexico before being returned to Kansas to face charges here.

02/16/08

10pm

A local pet store needs your help to identify a dog-napper. These are security pictures from the Petland store in east Wichita. The woman in the red sweater is who police are looking for. She was talking to a salesperson about a Yorkie puppy when the salesperson left to get the dog's information; leaving the woman alone in the room with a young girl. The woman puts the dog in her bag and leaves the store. Management says it appears at least another two people in the store were involved. The dog is valued at nearly 2-thousand dollars. If you recognize any of the people in the video contact Wichita Police.

02/17/08

10pm

Opening tonight's CrimeWatch...a man is shot in the head with a BB gun; now Wichita police look for who did it. The victim was walking around Silver Springs apartments when he says three people pointed what looked like a handgun at him and started shooting. He ran away and was hit in the back of the head. Doctors removed the BB's at the hospital. Police are still looking for the suspects.

02/19/08

10pm

Thieves are breaking into more and more cars. Wichita police say last January, there were 859 car break-ins. This January, it jumped to more than 11 hundred. Adam Crouner says thieves broke into his truck. Besides stealing his radio, stereo equipment, and d-v-d headrests they also tore apart his dashboard. It happened right outside his apartment, but Crouner never heard a thing. Most of these break-ins go unsolved because there are no witnesses. And there are only 10 detectives to investigate thousands of cases. The best way to prevent it from happening to you; don't keep valuables in your car.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

02/22/08

10pm

A two thousand dollar dog is returned to the pet store where it was stolen. Last week, a woman stole a 3-month-old Yorkie puppy from Petland in East Wichita. Surveillance video caught the woman walking out of the store with the dog in her purse. This morning, police say a friend of the woman's returned the dog. Petland's owner was happy to see the puppy back in the store. A local vet kept the dog overnight to make sure it gets plenty of fluids. Next week it should be back in the store and available for adoption.

02/23/08

10pm

Police arrest two people in connection with a fatal shooting at a Wichita nightclub. Opening the CrimeWatch this Saturday...officers took the pair into custody after the shooting at Lightning Joe's early Friday morning. Both are now in the Sedgwick County Jail on second degree murder charges. The shooting killed a 37-year-old man and wounded a 22-year-old. The club owner says the bar was open for a private party.

02/25/08

10pm

A jail inmate beaten so badly he's spent two weeks in intensive care. Tonight the guard who did it is on paid suspension but the inmate's family wants more. The Sedgwick County Sheriff's Department says 59-year-old Edgar Richard refused to take his medication and tried to leave his cell. That's when the fight began. Richard's brother says his jaw is broken, skull fractured and he's on a breathing machine. He says Edgar suffers from mental illnesses and he wants the guard to face criminal charges. The Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office is conducting an internal investigation. In 2007 jail guards reported 216 times where force was used. Of those 18 complaints of unnecessary force were made by the public. Only two were substantiated.

02/26/08

10pm

The FBI will investigate the beating of a Sedgwick County jail inmate. The Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office says Edgar Richard refused to take his medication and tried to leave his cell. That's when he got into a fight with guard. Richard's jaw is broken, skull fractured and he's on ventilator. His family says he suffers from mental illness and wants the guard to face criminal charges. The guard is currently on paid suspension.

02/27/08

10pm

The man accused of killing Jodi Sanderholm is now contacting her friends. Justin Thurber is charged with capital murder for Sanderholm's death. Last January the Arkansas city teen was kidnapped, sexually assaulted, and murdered. Prosecutors spent much of this afternoon trying to prove Thurber has a sexually violent past. Last October, one of Sanderholm's friends received a letter from Thurber after he saw her picture in the paper. The judge has not yet decided if today's testimony will be allowed at trial. Justin Thurber will be back in court for more motions in April. Prosecutors say they'll begin the process of admitting DNA evidence at that hearing.

02/28/08

10pm

A man tries to abduct a girl as she walks to school. Now Salina police want to know if you've seen this man. Just tonight they released this sketch of the suspect. A man in his mid-twenties, with dark hair, a short beard but no mustache he asked the nine year old to get in his car. When she refused, he grabbed her arm. The girl ran and the suspect drove away. Police say it happened near this intersection as the girl was walking to Schilling Elementary in Salina. Parents picking up kids this afternoon say they're scared. The suspect's vehicle is a dark green mini-van. It has a dent on the passenger-side front corner. If you have any information contact the Salina police.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

02/29/08

10pm

A man convicted of throwing a rope around a 12-year-old girl's neck and sexually assaulting her will spend life in prison. Randy Rogers pleaded no contest this month to sodomizing the girl. Rogers didn't even ask the judge for leniency this afternoon saying he deserved a harsh penalty. Prosecutors say Rogers was drunk and high in August when he spotted a 12-year-old girl walking in Derby. The girl told police Rogers threw a rope around her neck, pulled her into his truck, and sexually assaulted her on a back road in Sumner County. The girl's mother called Rogers a monster in court. Rogers will serve a sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole for 25 years. If he makes parole, he'll wear an electronic monitoring bracelet for the rest of his life.

03/04/08

10pm

Accused of molesting a student a Buhler High School teacher is now suspended without pay. Last week Richard Young was charged with indecent liberties and solicitation of a child. The Reno County Sheriff began investigating young last year even searched his home and classroom. That's when the district suspended him with pay. Today the district reversed that decision.

03/05/08

10pm

It was all a hoax. Salina police say a nine year old girl made up the story of a man trying to abduct her. She said she was walking to school when a man tried to pull her into his car at this intersection. She even described the man so police could draw a sketch. Police now say she made it up because she was late for school. Parents say they have mixed emotions about hearing it wasn't true. Police say the girl is too young to be a charged with a crime so they referred the case to SRS.

03/06/08

10pm

In tonight's CrimeWatch...He says he put two children in a clothes dryer to entertain them. But police say, Aron Pritchard was trying to punish them. During Pritchard's trial, prosecutors said the 3-year-old boy had second degree burns. The children's mother testified today. The Reno County district attorney questioned why she didn't get help for her kids. Pritchard is charged with child abuse and aggravated child endangerment.

03/07/08

10pm

Police arrest 10 men inside this adult video store. They're charged with everything from public nudity to sexual battery because of acts taking place inside the store's private booths. Officers say a citizen complaint prompted the sting.

03/09/08

10pm

A fight breaks out between two men and one of them ends up stabbed. It happened around four this morning in the Riverside area. A woman saw the fight and called 911. Paramedics rushed the victim to Saint Francis hospital in critical condition. Wichita police have identified a suspect.

03/10/08

10pm

A Wellington mother is killed; tonight, investigators want to know if her husband did it. Sunday 25 year-old Lauren Gonzales was found dead in her home. She has three young kids...who are now staying with relatives. Police say a man was also found in the house he was shot in the neck. Friends say he was Gonzales' estranged husband. Investigators say it's too early to call it a murder suicide attempt. They want to speak with Gonzales' husband who is still in the hospital.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

03/11/08

10pm

For your morning drive you may be tempted to do this cut through the median along K-96. One motorcycle even tried it as an officer stopped someone else for the same thing. You should know it's illegal to do a u-turn on a divided highway. If caught, it's a 96 dollar ticket. You also run the risk of being seriously hurt with on-coming traffic going 65 miles an hour. The Wichita school system says some 30 buses were affected by road closures today. It's not sure how many will be tomorrow but isn't planning to start routes any earlier than usual.

03/12/08

10pm

He turned in his resignation. Tonight Valley Center Police investigate whether a coach had an inappropriate relationship with a student. Valley Center's superintendent says high school baseball coach and PE teacher Jay Miller turned in his resignation. The school is not commenting because it's a personnel matter. Police say they have not found anything criminal, but say they still have to interview the 18 year old girl involved. The school board will decide next month whether to accept Miller's resignation.

03/13/08

10pm

A piece of evidence or a piece of history? This 1953 GMC pick-up truck has stories of its own. In November we brought you the 1982 cold case of Kirk Hartman. Just 21-years old at the time, he was found dead in his truck with a bullet through his heart. Now more than 25-years later the case is still unsolved and his sister says she wants the truck back. Investigators say Hartman's murder is still an open case. If someone's arrested for the murder the defense has the right to review all evidence including the truck so they need to hold onto it. Hummingbird is trying to find a lawyer so she can file a lawsuit to get the truck back. You can watch our original FactFinder 12 investigation on the cold case on www.kwch.com

03/14/08

10pm

The government believes they'll run to Mexico. Tonight a Federal judge is deciding whether he agrees a Haysville couple is a flight risk. Doctor Stephen Schneider and his wife Linda are in jail awaiting trial. Today their attorney asked they be let out on bond. But prosecutors have recorded phone calls...they say show the couple will flee. The phone calls mention Mexico; the Schneiders own a home there. But the couple's attorney says the calls were taken out of context. Tonight the judge is still deciding whether to release the Schneider's before their trial. He set a tentative trial date for April 2009.

03/15/08

10pm

A burglar tries to steal cigarettes from the Central Smoke Shop and loses his pants in the process. Wichita police say they could hear the man inside he was throwing cartons of cigarettes out of a hole in the wall. But when he tried to crawl out he got his pants caught on a nail which didn't let go. Officers finally pulled him out he went to jail without his pants.

03/16/08

10pm

One man goes to the hospital after being shot near a Wichita club. Police say the victim was leaving Club La-Faye around one this morning when two people shot at him multiple times. The victim was hit once in the leg, he's been treated and released from the hospital. The club owner tells us it didn't happen in his parking lot he says the club did have problems under a different owner but he's tried to keep it safe.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

03/17/08

10pm

Wichita arson investigators return to the Hilltop neighborhood. This after a fire started last night in an empty duplex near Harry and Bluffview. No one was hurt in the fire. Police arrested four teens earlier this month for starting fires in the same area. Investigators are not saying if this fire is related.

03/18/08

10pm

Threatened with a butcher knife; tonight Wichita police believe the same man may be behind two robberies. Early this morning two men robbed this Quik Trip. They used a long knife and one had similar clothing of a man who robbed the CD Trade Post a mile and a half away. That robbery happened around 8:30 last night. A man bought a DVD and then pulled a knife when the employee opened the cash register. The clerk cooperated with thief; afraid the man might hurt him. Police haven't made any arrests; police say you should cooperate during a robbery and call 9-1-1 when it's over.

03/21/08

10pm

Tonight police are looking for the group of men who held a Wichita family at gunpoint. The family says a group of men came to their door yesterday asking to use the phone. Later the men returned, pushed their way through the door and put guns to the heads of a woman and a seven year old boy. The family says they took money and a cell phone.

3/22/08

10pm

Wichita police investigate a series of overnight robberies in northeast Wichita. Each happened around midnight and a mile apart. One of them was here in the 15-hundred block of north Poplar. That's where a woman claims three people kicked in her back door, pulled her out of bed and assaulted her. Police say the trio took a small amount of cash and left in a 4-door black Pontiac. Paramedics took the woman to Wesley Medical Center with minor injuries.

03/23/08

10pm

Police storm a house in northwest Wichita arresting those inside. A man barricaded himself inside the home Saturday night after police tried to arrest him on an outstanding warrant. Officers sealed off streets near 25th and Park Place and waited for SWAT to arrive. Police fired tear gas into the home when several hours of negotiations failed. Officers took four people into custody. No one was hurt.

03/24/08

10pm

He admits he's guilty but he calls his sentence cruel and unusual punishment. A Hudson man is under house arrest. Leroy Schad pleaded guilty to soliciting a 9-year-old. A judge sentenced him to five years probation. But he must also display signs on every side of his house and car during those five years. Neighbors agree with the sentence. If Schad takes down the signs or violates any part of his probation he will face more than 3 years in prison. He is currently appealing his sentence.

03/25/08

10pm

We begin with breaking news from western Kansas. Right now police are investigating a homicide in the town of Osborne. Tonight the KBI and Osborne County Sheriff are asking for your help. They want to know if you saw a vehicle leaving the rural home where the homicide happened. It is a blue four door mid-sized car with an off colored fender. The vehicle's trunk was ajar. The people inside the car are wanted for questioning. If you have any information call the Osborne County Sheriff or 1-800 KS-CRIME.

CRIME Q-1 cont.

03/26/08

10pm

Killed in his own home the KBI is asking for your help in a homicide investigation. People in Osborne say their town will never be the same. Tuesday afternoon 55-year-old Jeffery Noel was killed at his rural home. Investigators think he might have walked in on a burglary. They're still looking for who's responsible. People in Osborne say it's forever changed their town. Investigators don't know how many people were involved and they're not releasing how Noel was killed. Noel had a wife and grown children; none were home at the time. If you have any information, call the KBI at 1-800-KS-CRIME.

03/27/08

10pm

Police say they were caught in the act having sex in a park in Pottawatomie County. Now this Kansas teacher is out on bond. After she was charged with unlawful sexual relations with a student 31 year old Katherine Harder taught at Manhattan High. Police say they caught her with a 17 year old boy in a car at Tuttle Creek State Park last night. Harder was also sponsor of the Key Club. A quote in the yearbook says her favorite part was interacting with the kids outside of the classroom. Harder was released on a 3 thousand dollar bond.

03/30/08

10pm

A Wichita man goes on trial for murder this week. Police say Steven Novotny shot and killed Laquisha Starr last April. Starr was six-and a half months pregnant at the time. Doctors delivered the baby ...but he died five months later. The baby's father was hurt in the shooting but survived.

03/31/08

10pm

The checks are meant to help you spend money and spur the economy. But first, you have to get them. Tonight authorities warn of expected mail thefts. By mid-May mail carriers will be delivering your tax rebate check and thieves may watch your mailbox for it. The postal service says it trains mail carriers to watch for suspicious characters or anyone following them as they make their deliveries. Mail carriers say it's important to know when your rebate check is coming and get it in your hands as soon as possible. You can find a schedule of when your check should arrive and information on how to report mail theft at

www.kwch.com

COMMUNITY Q-1

01/01/08

10pm

A brand new year and a brand new baby; that's the case for Krystle Kozik. She gave birth at 12:26 this morning to Wichita's first baby in 2008. It happened just three days after Krystle moved to Wichita from Indiana. Even though David Zachariah Zenger wasn't due 'til late January but he arrived a little early. By giving birth after midnight, Krystal loses a 2007 tax deduction, but she says that doesn't matter nearly as much as having a healthy baby boy.

01/02/08

10pm

New tonight...cleanup crews work to stop a slow chemical leak from a derailed train. 11 cars of the Union Pacific train derailed tonight in Butler County between 120th and 130th and Northwest Butler Road. Two hopper cars spilled plastic pellets and one derailed car was a tanker that has a slow leak of methanol. Emergency management officials say there's no danger. No one was hurt in the derailment.

01/04/08

10pm

The KU football team returns home Orange Bowl champions. Their fans say they couldn't be prouder. Hundreds of Jayhawk fans came out to welcome their team home. They sported KU gear and had pens ready for autographs. Players happily obliged. Running Back Brandon McAnderson grew up in Lawrence rooting for the Hawks only to become one. He says last night's win against Virginia Tech shows how far they've come. McAnderson is one of a dozen seniors on the team.

01/05/08

10pm

Drivers heading to work tomorrow should avoid Hillside near Pawnee. That's because crews will begin demolishing the bridge over Gypsum Creek just east of Joyland. Crews will detour traffic to Pawnee, George Washington Boulevard, Oliver and 31st South. A new four-lane bridge is set to open in August.

01/06/08

10pm

Pipe corrosion; that's what Federal investigators say caused this explosion. It was last November when the Panhandle eastern pipeline near Haven blew. Corrosion caused a leak in the line and lead to the fire, but investigators haven't ruled out citing Panhandle. Luckily, no one was hurt.

01/07/08

10pm

We may know tomorrow what name will go on the downtown Wichita arena. A vote awarding naming rights is on the county commission agenda and eyewitness news has learned so far, there's just one proposal to consider. It's from Intrust Bank and our news partners at the Wichita Eagle say Intrust will pay more than 10 million dollars for the rights for more than 20 years. Sources tell us there are other offers for naming rights on smaller projects. All the money raised would go into the arena fund. Commissioners will decide if that money's used for maintenance or put in to the general fund.

01/08/08

10pm

A Wichita mother doesn't understand how her son died while her best friend was babysitting. Heidi Dieball is charged with first degree murder. Athena Haga says just weeks ago, she and her son moved in with Dieball. Dieball took 19 month old Andrew Haga to the hospital while she was babysitting saying he fell off a couch and stopped breathing. The next day, he died. Haga says Dieball babysat Andrew several times in the past. Now, she wants to know what happened to her son. Police say Andrew Haga's injuries don't match Dieball's explain that he fell off a couch.

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

01/09/08

10pm

It's a busy area where the city of Wichita hopes it cut down on trash collection. The city is trying out the big belly trash compactor at the downtown bus station. The city says trash is usually dumped there twice a day. The big belly holds four times more than its normal trash cans. The compactor is solar powered. It has a backup battery incase there are several overcast days in a row.

01/11/08

10pm

Girls Scouts from all over Central Kansas got fired up tonight getting ready for the start of cookie sales. This Celebrity Cookie Challenge kicked it all off. Teams had ten minutes to put together a desert using Girl Scout cookies and things like whipped cream, Twizzlers and marshmallows piled on a cake. You may recognize this chef working on her cake with lemonades. The Girl Scout cookie sale is about more than cookies. It helps girls learn business skills and earn money for camp. There are 8 varieties of cookies, they cost 3.50 a box. If a girl doesn't come to your door you can call 888-686-mint.

01/14/08

10pm

A north Wichita bridge is set to close for the better part of the year. City crews begin a 10-month reconstruction project of the Minisa Bridge on 13th Street in the morning. The bridge will have new structural support and slightly wider lanes. For ten months, the bridge will be closed to drivers and foot traffic. Riverside café sits a few feet from the bridge and is always filled with regular customers. So, owner Paul Cohlma says he's not worried. The project will cost the city two-point-six million dollars to complete. For a map of the city's detour visit www.kwch.com

01/16/08

10pm

Many Wichitans say it's a day they will never forget. Today marks 43 years of a KC-135 crashing into a Northeast Wichita neighborhood. The Piatt Park Memorial now marks the spot where the fuel tanker crashed at 20th and Piatt in 1965. It holds the names of the 30 people who died. Survivors waited years for a memorial. Last summer, it finally happened. Grants and donations paid the hundred thousand dollars to make it happen.

01/17/08

10pm

It's changing downtown Wichita. Today the water walk topped out. Workers signed a steel beam and hoisted it into place to celebrate the development's progress. Organizers just signed two new tenants to the property a comedy club and restaurant. They hope to have condominiums ready to move into by summer.

01/19/08

10pm

Gamers line up to compete in a Halo competition. And in between rounds they learn about the Kansas National Guard. The guard hosted the tournament today to give Halo fans a chance to compete face to face. Five to ten million people play Halo on line on any given weekend. So the guard says the tournament was a way to also teach gamers about what they do. Recruiters were on hand to talk when the controllers were down showing off their real equipment. The guard didn't actually sign people up today. They plan to host similar free tournaments monthly.

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

01/21/08

10pm

Wichita State basketball Coach Gregg Marshall is not headed to South Carolina at least for now. The first-year Shocker coach was connected to the top job there last week after South Carolina's coach announced his retirement. In a written statement this afternoon Marshall said he hasn't had any contact with South Carolina. Most shocker fans say they hoped Marshall would stay but they were holding judgment until they heard from the coach.

01/22/08

10pm

Wichita's McConnell Air Force Base will be the home of some of the next-generation Air Force refueling tankers. The new KC-X tankers will replace the current KC-135s. Now the air force chief of staff signed an agreement that some of the new tankers will be based here at McConnell. It's not known how many will come to the base or when. Boeing and Airbus both want to build the KC-X when production starts. Boeing says if it wins the contract it would bring several hundred jobs to Wichita.

01/24/08

10pm

Once you make the digital switch...you may wonder what to do with your old television. One option is to recycle it. Right now there's only one place in Wichita to do that. The state is working with other communities to build electronic waste recycling centers. They expect a huge influx once the digital t-v conversion happens. Recycling isn't required but the state says it's a good idea. Recycling your television will cost you between 15 and 35 dollars. Some electronic stores also offer recycling services for a fee.

01/25/08

10pm

Fire causes 250 thousand dollars damage to a Wichita business. It happened this afternoon inside a building at Timber Products. A welder's sparks caught some insulation on fire. It quickly spread...so the welder got all employees and people in surrounding buildings out. Within minutes six of the 12 propane tanks inside started exploding. Fire fighters eventually got the fire out but the building is a total loss.

01/28/08

10pm

A Fort Riley soldier hurt in Iraq last year has died from his injuries. Private First Class Duncan Crookston was hurt by a roadside bomb back in September. He'd been in a Texas hospital ever since. Crookston is the 141st Fort Riley to soldier to die in Iraq or Afghanistan.

01/29/08

10pm

They say it will cause too much air pollution. And hope to stop another coal plant from being built. As we told you last year Sunflower Electric wanted to build two coal plants by this existing on near the town of Holcomb. Eight attorneys general petitioned the state with environmental concerns. The state then denied the application. Now the same attorneys wrote a letter to South Carolina are asking it to deny permit to build a coal plant there.

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

01/30/08

10pm

For the better part of the last year, Michael Beasley has promised K-State fans victory over KU, be it in Manhattan, Lawrence, Africa., he even added Antarctica to the list earlier this week; fighting' words, but words the Cats backed up nicely tonight. KU unbeaten, un-tied, and also un-tested coming in none of these things going out. The cats apply pressure from the get-go, leading 14 minutes in the first half, Bill Walker with 12 despite some early foul trouble to pace the cats to a two point lead at halftime. Second half KU threatens to make a game of it, until Michael Beasley gets busy 25 points on the night 17 of those in the second. He and Jacob Pullen drain back-to-back treys to help push the cats lead to an even dozen at the 10 minute mark. And they close it out from there fans storming the court in waves celebrating the Wildcats' 84-75 victory. Their first over the Hawks in Manhattan in 25 years, first ever at Bramlage as K-State moves into sole possession of first place in the Big 12 and ends KU's unbeaten season after 21 games.

01/31/08

10pm

Shortly after the next president takes office television stations across the country will have to go digital. More than 30 thousand Kansans have already signed up for government coupons to buy digital converter boxes for their TV's. Those boxes are now available in Wichita. Hephner TV is one of the first places to sell them. Since the federal government made coupons available more than 3 million people signed up. With the discount, a converter box will run you about 20 dollars. To find out if you need a digital converter, log onto www.kwch.com and go to the Ready, Set Know section.

02/01/08

10pm

A bomb threat delays the start of an area high school game. Cheney was at Garden Plain tonight. But the game didn't get started until after bomb sniffing dogs came in and checked things out. Students found a note this afternoon warning a bomb was set to blow up. The two schools decided to move the JV games to Cheney while authorities made sure the building in Garden Plain was safe. Bourne says he hopes fans understand the delay getting into the game but safety is the most important thing.

02/02/08

10pm

They say the poor and sick won't be able to buy groceries; that's why they're going door to door. Neighbors near 13th and Waco will lose their Dillon's when the store moves to a new location. Some neighbors are upset, they say the community is filled with people who are either too sick or don't have a way to get to the new store which will be more than a mile away. Neighbors are handing out flyers encouraging others to call the company's corporate office. Dillons plans to relocate four of its smaller Wichita stores to three former homeland food locations.

02/04/08

10pm

A Federal judge says Topeka's Westboro Church will pay for a funeral protest. The judge upheld a ruling that church members invaded the privacy of a fallen soldier's family by picketing his funeral. However, the judge did reduce the amount of damages from 10 million to five million.

02/10/08

10pm

Protesters who call themselves Anonymous lined up outside the church of scientology to express their dislike for the religion. Members of Anonymous who want to remain anonymous say they were there to protest the business practices of the church. It was part of a worldwide protest taking place in 14 countries. Protesters think Scientologists put a price on spiritual enlightenment...something they believe a true religion should not do. The Church of Scientology released a statement saying that the members of anonymous are cyber-terrorists who perform hate crimes on their religion and have harassed them before.

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

02/13/08

10pm

They have a lot of catching up to do. Separated for 45 years tonight a Kansas man is reunited with his twin sister. Lindi Deal and Kevin Kuykendall spent their first birthday together four decades ago. But they were adopted by different families when they were 18 months old... and never saw each other again. Lindi had been searching for her brother for years and finally tracked him down in December with the help of an adoption registry website. That's when they talked on the phone for the first time. Lindi flew from Louisiana to surprise Kevin. She gave him a birthday present; a necklace that reads "together again". Now she'll spend a week with Kevin in Effingham, Kansas where he lives with his mother. Kevin and Lindi have discovered they have some things in common, for instance, they both like lemon pie and iced tea.

02/15/08

10pm

Millionaire adventurer Steve Fossett is declared dead. The ruling comes five months after his plane disappeared over the Nevada Desert. A judge made the decision after testimony from Fossett's wife, a family friend and a search & rescue expert. Fossett was the first man to fly around the world alone without refueling. He took off from the Salina Airport for the record breaking trip.

02/16/08

10pm

The lady Shockers trade in their black and yellow for pink and white. All to raise money for breast cancer research. For each person who came out to today's game Coach Jane Albright plans to donate one dollar to charity. Half of the money goes to Victory in the Valley and the other half will go to North Carolina state basketball Coach Kay Vow's Foundation for Breast Cancer. Some 17-hundred people came out for the game.

02/18/08

10pm

A new monument will soon be added to Arlington National Cemetery. And it was created right here in Wichita. It will allow everyone to see the most recognizable symbol of our country even if those people are blind. Groups like the American federation of the blind are already planning trips to Washington DC to see the flag. It's expected to be dedicated around Memorial Day. For a closer look at how the Braille flag works go to www.kwch.com

02/19/08

10pm

Bodies partly dissected. The exhibit is coming to Exploration Place, but not without controversy. It's because of a similar exhibit on display in Pennsylvania. There are allegations the specimens are executed Chinese prisoners who never agreed their remains be displayed. Exploration Place says a different exhibit; "Our Body the Universe Within" is coming to Wichita. You can learn about the human body through different states of dissection and poses. It opens Memorial weekend. Tickets are already on sale.

02/21/08

10pm

The community of wellington is coming together to help a family through the death of their third child. Cristian Miller was born with a heart condition that caused the walls of his heart to thicken. But it still shocked his family when he died Saturday. Eight years ago Cristian's house caught on fire killing his younger brother and sister. His parents say it's because Cristian got their attention that anyone survived. Wellington residents are donating money to help Cristian's family with funeral costs. The same thing they did eight years ago. Paramedics worked for more than an hour to try and save Cristian.

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

02/22/08

10pm

By the time neighbors saw the flames they knew it was too late. The deadly fire ripped through Keith Moore's mobile home killing both him and his four year old son Ryan. Investigators believe it was caused by a faulty outlet and a space heater. Neighbors say flames were higher than trees so they couldn't get inside to help. Fire fighters found the bodies near the living room. Neighbors say the Moore's gas was shut off last summer so they relied on space heaters.

02/27/08

10pm

The bridge is closed for construction. Now area businesses may also close. Work on the 75 year old Minisa bridge is expected to last through the fall. Riverside Antiques say it can't wait that long. Next month its doors will close for good. It opened less than a year ago, but when the bridge closed, the owner says her business went with it. And on the other side of the parking lot, U R So Craftee is also thinking about closing. The owner says she'll go days without seeing a customer.

02/28/08

10pm

Maize is one of three towns Barton Solvents is considering to relocate. It's a move one resident worries about. Tom Reed runs a business in Maize and welcomes more. But he says Barton Solvents is too risky. He says the Valley Center explosion last summer makes him worry about what could happen in his town. The company is interested in building a new facility in the industrial park. The city of Maize says the location is good because it's not near any homes. Reed says if you're still worried voice your opinion. Maize is in the running with Bel Aire and El Dorado. The company will announce where it will build in the next month.

03/01/08

10pm

Hundreds of Wichita children are going to bed with brighter smiles tonight. The Sedgwick County Oral Health Coalition hosted a free dental clinic this morning. Dentists gave free exams and cleanings for children without insurance. Dentists, hygienists, and other volunteers gave their time for free today. They provided about 30 thousand dollars worth of services.

03/03/08

10pm

Give us more time. That's what the Lottery Commission plans to ask the state. It wants a 60 day extension to finish negotiations with developers competing to build casinos in these four counties. The commission has 13 offers for the four state owned casinos the legislator approved. Once contracts are finished they will be forwarded to a review board who will select the best one.

03/04/08

10pm

The Wichita city council gives the go ahead to build a new theatre at Cowtown. It wants a 600 seat theatre to give the Diamond W. Wranglers more room to perform. The band moved to the visitor's center in September and outgrew the space. The council approved a four million dollar building but say the price could come down. They will take almost two million from railroad crossing improvements and public works to fund the project.

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

03/05/08

10pm

Our backyards aren't just yards any more; they're outdoor living spaces and if you need ideas to fix up yours up; you'll find plenty of them at the Wichita Garden show. It's the 41st year for the show-which makes you forget that it's still winter outside. The elaborate center gardens are always a hit. The theme this year-green living for life-with ideas on using less water and less energy in the yard. The show runs through Sunday at Century II.

03/09/08

10pm

Funeral arrangements are set for three members of a Wichita family killed in a car crash last month. Schoenwald, his 18-year-old daughter Jenna and 13-year-old son Jace died while on a ski trip in Colorado. A funeral service is scheduled for Tuesday at Central Christian Church. The service starts at ten-30 with a private burial to follow. Janelle Schoenwald and the couple's twin 15-year-old daughters survived.

03/10/08

10pm

New at ten; MGM gets another chance to build the Sumner County casino. Tonight the Mulvane city council annexed land for the MGM site. The city already did the same thing for the Harrah's proposal. But this time the city annexed a strip across the turnpike to the MGM site. MGM wants to build behind the Mulvane Winery while Harrah's wants to build beside it. Sumner County did not endorse either proposals to the state and is fighting Mulvane's annexation.

03/11/08

10pm

Tonight, road crews are working overtime to clear the tanker crash. But you won't have to pay for it. K-DOT says it will seek restitution from the trucker's insurance company. It will ask for money to pay for traffic control and fixing infrastructure. Here's the latest on how the work is going tonight. It could take 'til noon tomorrow to transfer fuel from the tanker. Crews also have to burn off the butane that spilled. Roads could stay closed that entire time because crews don't want to risk anything igniting the fuel. Tonight crews had to stop draining tanker and turn it over to get more fuel out.

03/13/08

10pm

New tonight the Mulvane city council endorses the MGM casino proposal. Last week the council annexed land to the proposed site. Tonight 18 people spoke before the council's vote. The council then voted three to two to endorse it. This will be the fourth Sumner County casino proposal sent to the state which will then pick the best one.

03/14/08

10pm

New tonight...an apology from Wichita city staff for a scene at Mid Continent Airport. Admitting-an out of town crew was filming scenes of "questionable character and taste." The airport is packed this week with families heading out of town for spring break. Upset travelers called us describing the scene as verging on pornographic-with actors wearing spandex-or very little at all. The city thought it was a documentary film and when it learned the nature stopped the filming and put the crew out.

03/15/08

10pm

The tornado damaged the headquarters of Georgia Pacific owned by Wichita-based Koch Industries. No one in the building was hurt but the storm shattered hundreds of windows. We're told the 52-story building remains structurally sound. Repairs are already underway and the company says employees will be back at work Monday morning.

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

03/17/08

10pm

We asked the following question of 5-hundred Kansans. When a religious leader makes a controversial statement, do you think it is fair or unfair to judge those in the congregation based on those statements? 31-percent of you say it is fair. While a majority 56-percent say it is unfair to judge members of the congregation. 13-percent of you are undecided.

03/20/08

10pm

City leaders plan to bid on the 2011 and 2012 tournament. The city tried for the 2010 games last year, but with the arena construction not yet underway, the NCAA said no. Supporters say the area's large basketball fan base would sell out the 15-thousand-seat Intrust Bank Arena. Leaders will bid sometime next year.

03/21/08

10pm

New tonight surveillance video shows what caused a disturbance at Mid-Continent Airport. Last Friday we told you about an out-of-town crew filming in Wichita. Today Mid-Continent released this video. You can see two actors in costume acting out a conversation. The city says it gave the crew approval, but was deceived by the nature of the filming. It thought they were making a documentary. The same crew approached KWCH saying they wanted to film the news process. They came to our building Friday and left without incident or filming anything.

03/22/08

10pm

After a year of ice storms, tornadoes and flooding in Kansas, the Kansas history museum opens an exhibit on extreme weather. The exhibit called "Forces of Nature" runs through January. Organizers say the timing is a coincidence, because they've been working on it more than a year. Project Manager Rebecca Martin says weather is a huge part of the state's identity and therefore the exhibit is a natural fit. For admission information and to plan your trips to the museum go to www.kwch.com

03/24/08

10pm

It wasn't on the agenda, but that didn't keep Barton Solvents from being discussed at tonight's Maize city council meeting. Barton is the valley center chemical company where this explosion and fire happened last summer. The company is looking to relocate in a larger plant and less residential area. Maize is one option. At tonight's council meeting close to a dozen citizens signed up to speak on the issue, even though the council wasn't scheduled to discuss it. We talked with one of them about his concerns. Maize city administrator Richard Lamunyon told us tonight there will be a public hearing before there is any decision to move forward.

03/25/08

10pm

Also in Park City ground breaking for a new arena. Wink Hartman is building it for his indoor football team the Wichita Wild. While it could also host other sporting events, concerts and shows, Hartman says the five thousand seat complex will attract a different crowd than the downtown Wichita arena. The Park City arena is set to open next spring.

03/26/08

10pm

As the Air Force prepares to replace its aging fleet of refueling tankers as dozens of old ones are retired. These KC 1-35 E's are now headed to the Arizona desert. They are no longer flown, but have been maintained by crews in case needed. Now the 190th Air Re-fueling Wing has permission to get rid of them. Adjutant General Todd Bunting said two of the old tankers have already been moved to Arizona. Four more will go in the next few months.

COMMUNITY Q-1 cont.

03/28/08

10pm

Once homeless herself country music star Jewel holds a concert benefiting Wichita's homeless. Jewel says more Americans than you probably realize are just one paycheck away from being homeless. That's why she held this concert for the united Methodist open door shelter where people can shower, do laundry and get a meal. Jewel played to a sold out crowd raising four thousand dollars -- all going to the open door shelter. She hopes it will give people the little extra help they need to get back on their feet something she once needed herself.

03/29/08

10pm

The city of Mulvane will hold 20 special meetings to re-annex land for a casino. There are several pieces of property between Mulvane city limits and the Harrah's casino site on the other side of the turnpike. In January the council annexed the strips of land at once so it could endorse the casino. Sumner County sued Mulvane saying the annexation was illegal. Now Mulvane will annex each piece one at a time in effort to address legal concerns. They will meet every night except Sundays until all of the land is annexed.

03/31/08

10pm

If you don't like your license plate you could have a say on what the next one looks like. The director of vehicles announced today that Kansans can vote on a design for the new personalized license plates. Last November citizens submitted designs more than 100 were received. The plates are scheduled for production in 2-thousand-10. You can find a link to vote on one of the top 5 choices on our website www.kwch.com

ECONOMY Q-1

01/01/08

10pm

Shoppers hitting stores in Sedgwick County today saw savings. Last night the downtown arena one-cent sales tax expired; knocking the rate down to 6-3-percent. Shoppers will see a difference on their grocery bills over time. But savings on larger ticket items like furniture and cars are immediate. Since July 2005, the tax raised an estimated 205-million dollars for the downtown arena. Workers broke ground last month and are expected to open spring 2010.

01/02/08

10pm

A new year brings a new record for oil. For the first time, the price of crude hit 100 dollars a barrel. It's caused by violence in oil rich Nigeria and production halts in Mexico. The record price is expected to filter down to the pump within weeks where drivers are already paying more than they were in the summer driving season. It's also expected to drive up home heating costs 20 percent and airfares will likely soar too as airlines pass along fuel costs.

01/10/08

10pm

Fragile and volatile; that's how Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke describes the economy. He says a recession is looming and more rate cuts are on the way. The Fed already cut interest rates a full point since last fall. Unemployment is rising, consumer spending is weakening and the housing market has yet to hit bottom. Bernanke's talk of another rate cut helped the markets. The Dow staged a triple digit rally.

01/17/08

10pm

Child support payments taken out of checks and never distributed. That's what's happened in the last month at Hawker Beechcraft. The company says they sent the money to the Kansas Payment Center who collects child support, but it somehow got lost. The payment center says 51-thousand dollars in child support was delayed because of it. Its money people like Marcella Lay rely on to get by. Today Hawker Beechcraft sent a new check to the payment company which says it cut checks today.

01/24/08

10pm

It's supposed to get you to spend money. But will the government's tax rebate come in time to head off a recession? In tonight's ConsumerWatch...even if Congress acts quickly it could a while before you check is printed. The IRS will be bogged down in April with tax returns. It probably couldn't start the rebate process until May. Then comes mailing them; which could take 10 weeks for the 117 million families who would get a check under the plan. So who will get a rebate check? Individuals who pay income tax would get up to 600 dollars, working couples 12 hundred and those with children and additional 300 per child. Workers who make at least three thousand dollars but don't pay taxes would get 300 dollars.

01/27/08

10pm

It's the largest airline union in the United States and it has a plan to keep Wichita the Air Capital. Leaders from the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers are in Wichita giving people some grim facts. They say by 2010 the Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts the U.S. will see skilled worker shortage of eight million people; a problem that got the attention of Governor Kathleen Sebelius. That's why she supports the Aim Program. It's an effort to get the federal government to pump more money into places like tech schools, community colleges and apprenticeship programs to actually increase the amount of potential employees at places like Boeing, Cessna and Spirit. The union is touring the country promoting the program and gathering support and along with Kansas' Governor they also have the backing of Wichita teachers. Time will only tell if Washington will get behind the program and give it the funding it needs the details seemed to make a room full of Wichita aerospace machinists pretty happy Sunday night.

ECONOMY Q-1 cont.

01/29/08

10pm

It's made it through the House. Now the Senate is considering an economic stimulus package. The bill would give tax rebates to anyone making at least three thousand dollars. Families with children would get more. A majority of the senate wants to cut rebates to five hundred and give it to more people.

01/30/08

5pm

Economists say the Federal Reserve is playing catch-up. The Fed cut interest rates again today for the fifth time since September. Today's cut half a percentage point down to 3 percent. The goal is to keep the economy from falling into a recession. But what does it all mean to you? It's good news if you're struggling with bills. The lower interest rates can make it cheaper for you and for businesses to borrow money and easier to pay off home equity loans, car loans and credit card debt.

02/02/08

10pm

Leaders in Garden City are preparing for the possibility of hundreds of new residents. Tyson says some of the 15-hundred workers laid-off at its Emporia plant may end up at meat processing facilities in Finney County. Tyson closed the Emporia plant because of what it calls an overcapacity of slaughterhouses. Some of the displaced workers may wind up at Tyson plants in Illinois and Nebraska.

02/04/08

10pm

It happens every tax season and this year is no different. Local tax preparers say fraudulent W-2's are showing up. H & R Block says people have altered their W-2's to try and get a larger refund. But many times those trying to trick the government don't know what they're doing. H & R Block has also had people who've tried to file at multiple office locations. That won't work either only one return goes to the IRS. That agency reminds you it's a Federal crime to file a fraudulent tax return.

02/07/08

10pm

Thousands of Kansans will be getting a little extra money. Tonight Congress approved the president's economic stimulus package. The bill gives rebates of six-hundred to 12-hundred dollars to most taxpayers. The final version also gives older Americans and the disabled a 300-dollar rebate. The White House says the president will sign the bill either tomorrow or next week. Rebate checks could start arriving in people's mailboxes by May.

02/08/08

10pm

As the county files a lawsuit against Mulvane saying the city illegally annexed the Harrah's casino site. Here's a look at the annexation. Mulvane pieced together strips of land connecting city limits to land on the other side of the turnpike. The strips go through both Sedgwick and Sumner Counties. A group of citizens asked for the annexation so the city could endorse a Harrah's casino. The attorney for Sumner County calls the annexation illegal. He says it's not possible to run a continuous line from the city to the site with the turnpike in the way. Mulvane says it cannot comment because it has yet to receive the lawsuit.

02/13/08

10pm

Tyson's Emporia slaughter operation is officially closed. Some workers walked out of the plant for the final time this afternoon. Today was the last shift for beef operations & processing. One employee said he thinks most workers will move out of Emporia and transfer to other plants. There will be a job fair this Saturday afternoon in Emporia. It will be held from 1:00 to 4:00 at the Flint Hills Technical College.

ECONOMY Q-1 cont.

02/18/08

10pm

If you need to gas up you better do it tonight. Tomorrow you can expect higher prices at the pump. Here's why. This Texas oil refinery explosion shook homes and businesses miles away and left a plume of black smoke rising into the sky. Investigators are still looking for a cause. The refinery produces about 70 thousand barrels of oil a day. We called Triple A. It says some of the Kansas gasoline supply comes from Texas so prices at the pump should go up tomorrow.

02/23/08

10pm

We could know Monday if Boeing will build the next generation of refueling tankers for the Air Force. If Boeing wins the contract it could mean thousands of new jobs for Kansas and some 40-thousand jobs nationwide. Boeing is competing against Northrop Grumman and Airbus to build the plane. So what's at stake? The initial contract will be for 179-planes. There's also the possibility of 3-hundred more in the years to come. The contract is valued at about 40-billion dollars. The new tanker will replace the KC-135. Many of those planes are based at McConnell Air Force base here in Wichita.

02/25/08

10pm

Today the Pentagon discussed the deal. Tomorrow it's expected to announce the winner of the refueling tanker contract. Boeing is considered the front runner for the project; under which Boeing Wichita would modify the plane into a tanker. Spirit Aerosystems would also build part of the plane bringing at least 300 new jobs to Wichita. Last summer Wichita workers held this rally for the contract. It would be a 40 billion dollar deal to replace 179 aging tankers and make the U.S. Air Force Boeing's largest customer. Boeing would build it's tanker from a modified 767. Airbus is the other contender. If it wins, the tankers would be assembled in Mobile, Alabama from the A 330. The Pentagon is expected to make the announcement tomorrow afternoon at four Kansas time.

02/26/08

10pm

Besides Boeing several hundred area businesses are watching to see who gets the tanker contract. Belger Cartage Services has worked with the major aviation companies and sub-contractors for more than 50 years. The company moves large machine tools, does crane work and welding across the Midwest. It says a Boeing Wichita tanker contract would force them to add jobs and knows it will have a ripple effect on the Air Capital. This week the tanker contract is expected to be awarded. Eyewitness News will let you know when it happens.

02/28/08

10pm

At least 600 dollars for individuals and 12 hundred for couples; but you'll only get the tax rebate if you file a 2007 tax return. The IRS will mail letters to more than 130 million homes to remind you. The government hopes the rebate will improve the economy and get you to spend money.

02/29/08

10pm

New tonight...with no deal, Boeing unions promise to fight back. Members of SPEEA and the machinists union protested the decision. They called it a travesty and pledged to work with lawmakers to overturn it.

ECONOMY Q-1 cont.

03/02/08

10pm

Wild West World cost about 30 million dollars to build but it may sell for a fraction of that amount. A Tulsa company is offering 2-million dollars for the property. Park city Mayor Dee Stuart confirms Spectacular Attractions has an unsigned sales contract in the works. The company plans to spend an additional 4 million dollars to reopen the park and bring in 35 rides. Former owner Thomas Etheredge declared bankruptcy last year and closed the park. Most of the attractions have since been sold at auction.

03/03/08

10pm

We wanted to know what you think about the tanker contract. In a FactFinder 12 scientific survey we asked 500 Kansans; will Boeing losing the contract have a major impact on the Wichita economy? 68 percent of you think it will 26 percent say impact is minor. When asked if the lowest bid comes from a foreign company should it be accepted? 15 percent say it should and 80 percent say it should not. When asked if a U.S. Military plane built by a foreign company would be more safe than one built by an American company? 4 percent say it will be safer while 62 percent say it will be less safe and 33 percent say there will be no difference.

03/05/08

10pm

President Bush asked but Opec refused saying it will not increase production. Once Opec made the announcement oil prices hit a new record high of 104 dollars a barrel. It's the second time this week oil has hit a new high. Opec says mismanagement of the U.S. economy is forcing oil prices to record highs. With the high oil prices, analysts predict gas prices to hit four dollars by Memorial Day.

03/06/08

10pm

Boeing has to make the next move and Kansas lawmakers in Washington hope it will protest the tanker contract. Boeing will meet with the Air Force tomorrow to find out for the first time, why it lost the contract to Airbus. Lawmakers tell us, if Boeing decides to protest the deal...they'll do whatever's necessary to help. They say they could even pull funding on the project.

03/07/08

10pm

For the third straight day, oil prices set a new record. It hit 106 dollars before closing at 105 dollars a barrel. It won't be long 'til the record prices trickle down to drivers. Analysts predict prices at the pump to hit four dollars by Memorial Day.

03/12/08

10pm

You're not the only one watching grocery prices; the government is too. And it projects what you pay for food will go up 3 and a half to 4 and a half percent this year. The higher cost of fuel is a big reason. But so is the price of feed for cattle, hogs and poultry. All are up from last year-eggs are more than 30 percent higher. Milk is one component of the dairy products group that's up 12. 8 percent. Fresh fruit and vegetables are higher than last year and cereals and bakery goods are up 5.7%.

03/14/08

10pm

Another record day for gas prices according to triple A overnight gas prices rose to 3.28 a gallon. Here in Wichita we found prices at 3.16. Gasoline has set several record highs this week. But when adjusted for inflation, the price is still less than March of 1981. Part of the reason for the hike overnight oil prices hit a new record 111. dollars a barrel.

ECONOMY Q-1 cont.

03/17/08

10pm

Wichita's new aviation training center is about to get off the ground. The 54-million dollar center will prepare people for jobs in the aviation field. The facility is going up at Jabara Airport. The rain moved today's groundbreaking indoors but didn't dampen the enthusiasm. The training center is set to open in 2010.

03/18/08

10pm

The Federal Reserve has cut a key interest rate by three-quarters of a percent. The Fed's move also led commercial banks to slash their prime rates to 5 and a quarter. The prime rate is a benchmark for millions of business and consumer loans. This is the sixth rate cut since last September.

03/19/08

10pm

It's a quest for answers. Congressman Todd Tiahrt sent a letter to the Air Force today requesting all documents involved with the tanker deal including a list of government officials that weighed in on the contract and both companies' bids. In late February, the air force awarded a 35-billion-dollar contract to airbus to replace the aging KC 135 fleet instead of Boeing. Tiahrt wants a congressional hearing to investigate changes in regulations and illegal subsidies. Tiahrt says he has bipartisan support in congress to question the contract decision.

03/20/08

10pm

Of the 3 point four million truckers in the nation nine percent are owner operators. Here's what they're asking for in the strike. The government to put a hold on fuel taxes until the economy recovers, a regulatory commission to oversee insurance premiums on big rigs, standardized fines for safety related tickets, and they want big trucking companies to pay the same insurance premiums owner operators do to level the playing field.

03/27/08

10pm

2007 was a record year for Kansas exports. The Department of Commerce says exports are more than 10 billion dollars. That's nearly a 19 percent increase from 2006. Aviation exports are up 520 million. Wheat, grains and cereals are up 521 million.

03/28/08

10pm

The IRS is offering help to make sure you get your tax rebate check. Tomorrow IRS offices will be open in all fifty states. Workers will help you with 10-40 A tax forms. The IRS wants to make sure people who don't usually file do this year so they can get the check. Many times retirees, people on social security and veterans don't file because their incomes are too low to be taxed. The Wichita IRS office will be open tomorrow from nine am to three pm. That's at 271 West Third Street North.

EDUCATION Q-1

01/03/08

10pm

The longest winter break for one Kansas school district ends. An ice storm December 11th knocked out power to Lost Springs and the five other communities served by Centre Schools. The elementary and high schools were without electricity for several days. Power was restored just before the scheduled holiday break. But the schools were left with frozen pipes and other problems that resulted in a 23 day lay-off. Their spring break will be two days shorter but school officials say the school year will still end on the same day as originally scheduled, barring more story winter weather.

01/08/08

10pm

The Wichita school district holds its first meeting on a proposal to end forced busing. For nearly 40 years the district has bused students based on their race. Now Superintendent Winston Brooks has a plan to end it. Tonight parents attended a meeting to see how the change will affect their children's education. They broke into small groups where several issues were brought up -- including how to stay involved in the child's education. Norwood says tonight's information will help her think about what questions she wants to ask at the next meeting.

01/10/08

10pm

A Wichita teacher says if you want proof another bond issue is needed, visit her classroom. Melissa Bloom says 20 students would be ideal but she has 29 in her math class. She's at Seltzer Elementary one of 20 schools the district considers overcrowded. Building more schools to reduce class size is one of many reasons the Wichita school board is considering a new bond issue. Bloom is in favor of paying for new schools because she says students are suffering from the over-crowding. The school board will decide next month if it wants another bond issue.

01/22/08

10pm

Technology is also helping Wichita parents keep in touch with their schools. USD 259 is implementing Parent-Link; a way schools can email and telephone parents to alert them to upcoming events, unexcused absences, or emergencies. Principals say this will not replace the letters and notes they send home to parents it'll just be a new addition. The alert system for elementary schools started today. Middle and High school parents can expect the phone calls and emails beginning in February.

01/29/08

6pm

Forced busing is over for Wichita schools. Last night the school board voted to end the 38 year old policy. That means starting next fall students who are bused can begin attending school in their neighborhood. They also have the option to stay in the current schools they're bused to. Now here's what's next. Letters explaining the change will go out to parents of the two-thousand kids affected. School officials will then call or do home visits with those parents to help them weigh their options. A committee of citizens will oversee the transition.

01/30/08

10pm

As of now, Wichita public schools have not cancelled class. If it does, the district says it will alert parents through its new parent link system. Last week we told you about the automatic phone message program. Prepare for your morning drive with live road condition reports on Eyewitness news this morning starting at five. You can find any closings at www.kwch.com While there, register for Text Me 12 to get weather warnings for your county.

EDUCATION Q-1 cont.

01/31/08

10pm

Five years, 30-thousand gallons. Administrator's say that's how much water leaked from a heater at McPherson High School since 2002. The school found the leak earlier this month after an unusually high water bill. So how did workers find leak so small it went un-noticed for all this time? The floor around the leak was hotter than the surrounding area because the water was about 120-degrees. Workers have fixed the leak, ripped up flooring around it and will now look for any structural damage caused by years of standing water.

02/08/08

10pm

Nearly 6-hundred Wichita students will have a new school this fall. This is the inside of the new Gordon Parks Academy in northeast Wichita. The school is at 25th and Grove and will be a Magnet school for grades K through eight. Parents must apply for the Magnet school by March 26th. The school will hold a series of informational meetings before then. For a list of dates go to www.kwch.com

02/10/08

10pm

The Wichita school board will vote on a proposed 350-million dollar school bond tomorrow. The money would build new schools, add classrooms, and upgrade athletic facilities throughout the district. Under the proposal property taxes on a one-hundred thousand dollar house would go up about 40 dollars a year. Board members are expected to approve it; if they do you'll have a chance to vote on it in May.

02/12/08

10pm

We wanted to know what you think of the bond issue. In a FactFinder 12 scientific survey we asked 500 Wichitans if 350 million dollars is too much. 51 percent say it is, 10 percent say it is too little and 34 percent say it's just about right. When asked if you think the Wichita school board will act responsibly with your money. 39 percent believe the board is mostly responsible with tax dollars while 47 percent say it acts mostly irresponsible with tax money.

02/25/08

10pm

We wanted to know what you think about Wichita school diversity. In a FactFinder 12 scientific survey we asked 500 Wichita parents. With forced busing ending, how much racial diversity will local schools have? 18 percent say too much, 18 percent believe not enough and 54 percent say the right amount.

02/26/08

10pm

Lots of booths, lots of people, and lots of choices; tonight, more than five thousand people came out to the Wichita School District Choices Fair. It's a chance for parents to learn more about schools like the special programs or a magnet emphasis so families can choose which is best for them. This was the first choices fair in its 19 year history that did not have to deal with the issue of forced bussing. Several school principals told us the families of students who are forced bused are planning to stay at their current school because their children are already established.

EDUCATION Q-1 cont.

02/27/08

10pm

Richard young's alleged victim was a foreign exchange student. Young has been involved with foreign exchange programs for years. Private agencies place exchange students with families in school districts across the state every year. Jan Schneider left Germany seven months ago to live with the Coffmans in Newton. Either the host parents or student receives training of what to expect. The Coffmans are required to give family information and submit to background checks before a student is assigned to the home. Richard young is on paid leave from the Buhler school district. Friday the school board plans to discuss his status.

02/28/08

10pm

Continuing coverage of a 13 year old student hat was tased...it happened Tuesday at Derby Middle School. In separate investigations the district and police department found the school resource officer was justified. She repeatedly asked the disorderly student to comply. When he wouldn't she tased him; the student has been suspended. Next week, he'll return to school. It's the first time a derby resource officer has ever used a taser.

02/29/08

10pm

When air craft companies need workers the Wichita Area Technical College can help provide them. From airplane cabinet making, to composites staff here tailor their teaching to get students ready for the job. This is the first day for these aero structure students; soon they'll be ready to work. And by 2-010, students will be learning near some of the planes they're learning to build. The national center for aviation training will open next to Jabara Airport.

03/04/08

10pm

Ark City voters approve a 36 million dollar school bond. Initial results show more than 21 hundred people said yes to the proposal. Nearly 19 hundred voted no. The results are unofficial until Friday's canvas.

03/06/08

10pm

Supporters of the Wichita school bond issue hope tornado safety will help convince you to vote for the money. New at ten tonight, the district says, the bond issue will build new safe rooms. Three Wichita schools were hit by tornadoes in 1999. The twister that hit Jefferson Elementary damaged the building and destroyed a portable classroom. Right now, 36 schools have safe rooms. The bond issue would build 60 new storm shelters.

03/07/08

10pm

Part of May's school bond issue could build 60 new storm shelters for Wichita school buildings. The shelters or safe rooms are designed to withstand an E-F-5 tornado. Jefferson elementary was the first Wichita school to get a shelter after a tornado hit the building in 1999. The room can hold more than 700 people and has 10-inch-thick concrete walls and ceiling. Teachers who were at Jefferson when the tornado hit say more shelters are important. 36 Wichita schools already have safe room storm shelters. The school district does not have any plan to build the shelters if the bond does not pass.

03/09/08

10pm

The Wichita school board says it's too early know how long finding a replacement for brooks will take. The board must vote to release brooks from his contract. Brooks will earn an annual salary of 250-thousand dollars. Benefits will bring that total to 273-thousand dollars each year. Albuquerque offered Brooks a three-year contract.

EDUCATION Q-1 cont.

03/27/08

10pm

A Wichita student says he faces expulsion because he's gay. Students rally behind him to ask the district to change its anti-discrimination policies. Jimmy Ineegez held a news conference this morning before his expulsion hearing. He's accused of sexually harassing another student. He told the student about a rumor questioning the student's sexuality. Ineegez says he did nothing wrong and feels like the district is targeting him. He wants sexual orientation added to the district's anti-discrimination and bullying policies. The district says its current policies protect all students.

03/31/08

10pm

The school board hopes to use the bond issue to help recruit a new superintendent. The 350 million dollars would build new schools, add classrooms and upgrade athletic and fine arts facilities. The new superintendent would implement those changes making the job more enticing. On May 6th, voters will decide whether to approve the bond. For more on specific improvements in the proposed bond issue - go to www.kwch.com

ENVIRONMENT Q-1

01/01/08

10pm

The main highway from Kansas through the Colorado Mountains is open. Yesterday Interstate 70 was closed all the way from Vail to east of Georgetown. Drifting snow caused white out conditions and avalanche danger. Thousands of travelers were stranded on their way to New Year's Eve celebrations. Liquor stores along the stretch say they did a lot of business. This afternoon all potential avalanches were cleared and the highway re-opened.

01/07/08

10pm

Pipe corrosion; that's what Federal investigators say caused this explosion. It was last November when the Panhandle eastern pipeline near Haven blew. Corrosion caused a leak in the line and lead to the fire, but investigators haven't ruled out citing Panhandle. Luckily, no one was hurt.

01/10/08

10pm

It's an alternative fuel that Kansas has a lot of; wind. With wind farms popping up around the state and Reno County is trying to stay ahead of the game. Tonight in Reno County land owners received information about wind farms including tips on negotiating contracts with developers. Other advice the wind farm consultants gave tonight--is to decide how long you want your contract to be. They say they've seen contracts anywhere from 20 to 115 years long.

02/08/08

10pm

A plan to revive two coal-fired power plants in western Kansas loses steam. House Speaker Melvin Neufeld stopped work on a comprehensive energy bill today. He says there's little support for the measure. Neufeld says interested parties will meet again to work out some of the problems. The bill allows Sunflower Electric to build two power plants in Holcomb but would also impose the state's first rules limiting carbon dioxide emissions.

02/12/08

10pm

It could be the end of the paper or plastic era as the push for recycling increases. The U.S. uses between 500 billion and a trillion plastic bags every year... That adds up to about 12 million gallons of oil used to make these bags that usually end up in the landfill. More Kansas retailers are offering an eco-friendly alternative; reusable, cloth-like bags. In addition to Whole Foods, you can find these bags in major retailers like Wal-Mart and Dillon's. For more information about recycling plastic bags, and finding reusable bags, log onto www.kwch.com

02/18/08

10pm

A billion gallons of contaminated water threatens to pollute the Arkansas River. Right now the water is inside a mine in Leadville, Colorado. But health officials fear it could make its way downstream to Kansas as snow melts. Colorado governor Bill Ritter is asking president bush to help with the threat of the mountain blowing out and contaminating the Arkansas River.

03/12/08

10pm

New rules could change what's in Wichita's air. Today the EPA lowered ozone levels for cities. Wichita's current limit is point oh 8 parts per million. The new level drops that to point oh 7-5. We spoke to someone who works with air quality here in the air capital. She says Wichita usually stays between point oo 6-7 and point oh 77. Ozone is what happens when emissions hit sunlight. High amounts can cause breathing problems.

ENVIRONMENT Q-1 cont.

03/13/08

10pm

"It was sparking like crazy". That's how a witness describes what started a grass fire along Highway 54 in Butler County. It began near the Butler-Sedgwick County line and burned about a nine mile stretch along the highway. How it began was obvious to Tim Welch, who actually saw what caused it. And that's exactly what made fighting the fire so difficult. The dragging muffler sparked flames for miles and firefighters had difficulty getting access to all the areas burning. Crews from Andover, Augusta, Douglass, Leon and Sedgwick Counties responded to the fire. It was put out without any injuries but firefighters say this is a good reminder how dry everything is right now and they want you to be especially careful.

03/14/08

10pm

Time is ticking for people in McPherson to clean-up from the December ice storm. The storm broke branches and left yards littered with limbs. But unlike Hutchinson, the city of McPherson isn't helping its residents clean-up. Property owners are on their own when it comes to raking up the mess and taking it to the landfill. Now a deadline is being put into place to have everything cleaned up putting some people in a real crunch. Residents could get fined if they don't clean up their yards. The city suggests calling the United Way for help, or contacting local churches to see if they have any volunteers.

03/19/08

10pm

Greensburg will soon be looking a little greener, after another gift from the town of Udall. That city plans to plant 75 more trees to join the 43 it already planted in Greensburg. Udall was destroyed by a tornado in 1955 and residents there banded together to help. The plantings are organized by the Udall historical society.

HEALTH & SAFETY Q-1

01/04/08

10pm

Sick kids and not enough hospital beds for them; it's all because of a respirator virus outbreak or RSV. Wesley Medical Center says its pediatric beds keep filling up forcing them to send kids to Via Christi. However Via Christi says it's been dealing with its own increase in RSV patients since November. Right now Wesley Medical Center says all 48 pediatric beds are full. They're now using adult beds to make room for children. To learn the symptoms of RSV go to www.kwch.com

01/05/08

10pm

New tonight...Odyssey Healthcare plans to close two Hospices one in Wichita, the other in Hutchinson. The company says it will make arrangements for other hospices to take care of patients. Odyssey says Medicare restrictions have placed a strain on their resources and have decided to focus on other markets. Odyssey plans to close the two Kansas locations by the end of the month.

01/06/08

10pm

Paramedics take an 11-year-old to a Wichita hospital after he's hit by a truck. It happened this afternoon at 16th and Hillside. Witnesses tell police the boy's brakes didn't work and he couldn't stop at the intersection. The driver of the truck says he didn't see the boy in time. The boy is listed in serious condition tonight.

01/10/08

10pm

Wichita has a distinction no one would want. It has more sick kids with a respiratory virus outbreak than anywhere else in the nation. Last week we told you about Wesley and Via Christi hospitals running out of pediatric beds because of it. It was back in November when the outbreak started. Of 200 cities monitored, Wichita had 65 percent of its tests come back positive for the virus. Via Christi is sending hospital equipment home with parents to free up space for new patients.

01/13/08

10pm

It's a simple click that can save your life and now your teen some cash. Starting tomorrow Wichita teens between 14 and 17-years-old could face a 60-dollar ticket if they're not wearing a seat belt. That can be the primary reason they're stopped. The state law went into effect last summer. Until now, officers have handed out warnings. Tomorrow Wichita Police say those will turn into tickets. Teens think it will have an impact. The driver is ticketed if the passenger not belted in is under 14-years-old or if the driver themselves is not wearing a seat belt.

01/14/08

10pm

Doctors write more than one million prescriptions a week for Zetia either alone or combined with another drug to make Vytoran. Tonight a HealthWatch alert...A study of the combined drug's effectiveness found while it lowered cholesterol artery clogging plaque was worse in the group taking Vytoran. A risk associated with heart attack and stroke. Doctors say don't stop taking the medication until you talk with your physician but Dr. Steven Nissen of the Cleveland Clinic expects changes. The study was finished almost 2 years ago but the results released just today. Congress is investigating why consumers didn't find out sooner.

01/20/08

10pm

A week-old boy wasn't breathing when Wichita police arrived at this home near 21st and hillside this morning. Paramedics performed CPR but the child later died at the hospital. Police don't know if the death is an accident, the result of a medical condition, or something else. An autopsy is planned.

HEALTH & SAFETY Q-1 cont.

01/21/08

10pm

When the ice hit this afternoon emergency rooms filled up. As people left work and headed home, a few ended up hitting the ice or each other. That kept Wichita Emergency Crews busy. Things are back to normal now, but at times, all 20 ambulance crews were out, and they had 25 more calls to respond to. They ended up in busy emergency rooms. Since this afternoon, Wesley's seen 33 patients because of the ice. The Via Christi hospitals treated about 60 patients because of the weather.

01/23/08

10pm

It's supposed to be scary but did that movie scene give you that sick feeling? Apparently the movie Cloverfield is causing sickness in theatres across the country. The horror flick about a creature attacking New York City is shot in a home-video style and it's making people nauseous; so much so theatres like Northrock in Wichita had to put up signs warning people who plan to see the movie. A worker tells us after almost every showing someone comes out complaining of sickness; movie-goers we talked to agreed. Northrock tells us over the weekend one man came out of in the middle of the movie but the theatre only had to refund two tickets to a couple who didn't see the signs.

01/26/08

10pm

A BBQ grill left unattended may have caused a pool house to catch fire. Fire crews say no one was home at the time when the 800 square foot pool house caught fire. Josh wells from our news partner at KFDI was driving by in the area, saw the smoke and called 911. Crews say the quick call...and a fire hydrant right in front of the pool house helped. Damage to the pool house is estimated at around 5-thousand dollars.

01/27/08

10pm

A Sedgwick County man is in fair condition tonight a day after he crashes his plane into a field near Valley Center. Gary Phillips of Bentley lost engine power causing his plane to go down and cartwheel through this field. Phillips was the only person in the plane when it crashed. Two other ultra lights were flying with him but they landed safely.

01/28/08

10pm

Strong winds slowed efforts to put down a grassfire in southwestern Kansas this afternoon. More than two dozen departments including some from Oklahoma battled flames in Clark County for several hours. At least six-thousand acres burned. Investigators say a discarded cigarette or a spark from a passing car could have started the fire. No one was hurt.

01/29/08

10pm

Many towns are doing it. The state could be next. Three senators are pushing for a state wide smoking ban. Under the proposal, each county would vote whether it wants the ban. It would stop smoking in all public places including restaurants, bars and casinos. Only 20 percent of hotel rooms could be smoking. A similar bill last year stalled.

HEALTH & SAFETY Q-1 cont.

01/30/08

10pm

Wichita abortion Doctor George Tiller is ordered to turn over thousands of patient records to a Grand Jury. The Grand Jury is investigating whether Tiller provided illegal late term abortions. In court today, Tiller's attorneys argued turning over the records would violate the women's privacy. The judge disagreed and ordered Tiller hand over the records. The ruling is a victory for Kansans for Life, the group that petitioned for a grand jury. The records involve up to 2-thousand patients over the last five years who had an abortion after 22 weeks. But before it sees them each record will be reviewed by an independent doctor and attorney. The women's names will not be included in the records. To see today's testimony go to www.kwch.com

01/31/08

10pm

This morning's snow kept plows busy and drivers with both hands on the wheel. But not even that could stop drivers all around Wichita from sliding off the road. Tow truck drivers say the most common excuse drivers gave for wrecking was that they were going too fast. By the lunch-hour things calmed down and plows were able to make progress clearing the streets. Emergency dispatchers say there were no serious injuries.

02/05/08

10pm

He came to work drunk; now a Hutchinson pharmacist is on five-years of probation with the state. Don Kaufman says a heavy night of drinking in October lingered until the next day. A customer reported the pharmacist after they smelled alcohol. The Kansas Board of Pharmacy investigated and took action. Kaufman is no longer the pharmacist in charge at Fraese Drug, he can not be behind the counter alone, has to submit to random drug and alcohol tests and attend alcoholics anonymous meetings. The board says Kaufman has cooperated and is safe to practice.

02/06/08

10pm

We wanted to know what policies are in place for severe weather at universities here in Kansas. Here's what FactFinder 12 found out. At Wichita State all classes and activities are cancelled when a tornado warning is issued for Wichita or Sedgwick County. Students, faculty and anyone else on campus are then directed to the nearest shelter. At KU emergency messages will sound in university buildings once the sirens in Lawrence go off. People are then directed to a basement or an interior hallway on the lowest level of the building where they wait until an all-clear is given. At K-State signs in every campus building direct people where to take cover during severe weather. They are usually posted by the main entrance. Faculty is also advised where to direct students.

02/08/08

10pm

The machine helped save the life of her son now an Andover mom wants them in every Kansas school. Doctors gave a lesson on the heart today to students at Andover Central Middle School to help them better understand what happened to their classmate and learn what they can do to help themselves. Jacob Harris collapsed at school two weeks ago- a heart defibrillator helped him survive. Jacob's mom wants every child to have the chance of survival. She's starting a campaign to get A.E.D.'s in every school.

HEALTH & SAFETY Q-1 cont.

02/11/08

10pm

A child collapses; new tonight school staff members are awarded for helping to save him. The Andover school board recognized a nurse and four teachers from Central Middle School. Last month a 13 year old student collapsed from a heart condition in gym class. When e-m-s arrived the staff members were already using a defibrillator. They were trained to use it the day before. Something the student's family is grateful. Harris is pushing for a law requiring all schools have a defibrillator.

02/12/08

10pm

A student gunman killed 32 people. Last spring's Virginia Tech massacre prompted colleges to take new steps to inform students about campus crises. The three major Kansas universities implemented emergency text messaging systems. Wichita State is in the process of upgrading the Shocker Alert System as more people register. So far it's only been tested; here's been no need to use it in an emergency situation.

02/16/08

10pm

The crash happened about 60-miles east of Denver near the town of Deer Trail. That's where state police say the family's van crashed into the back of a truck being towed. Investigators say the van then went over a median and into the eastbound lanes of I-70 where it was hit by a semi. The impact completely crushed one side of the van. Three other people inside the van were air-lifted to Denver hospitals. 46-year-old Kenneth Schoenwald died in the crash. His 18-year-old daughter Janna-Lea and son 13-year-old Jace also were killed. Janelle Schoenwald and the couple's twin daughters Alyssa and Avery survived. The twins are in critical condition while their mother is in fair. Tonight police are looking into whether Kenneth Schoenwald fell asleep or was distracted at the time of the crash.

02/17/08

10pm

The government announces the biggest beef recall in American history. Details in this ConsumerWatch alert. The 143-million pound recall involves meat from this slaughterhouse in Southern California. The government says the Westland-Hallmark meat company abused crippled and sick animals and used them in its products. Federal regulations ban the sale of meat from sick animals because of possible E-coli, salmonella and mad cow contamination. The company supplies meat to the federal school lunch program and some fast-food chains. No illnesses have been linked to the meat and the USDA says the health threat is small.

02/18/08

10pm

Too sick to walk but still taken to slaughter; it's the largest beef recall ever, 143 million pounds. Video shows just how far a California company went to make a profit. You can see downer cows brutalized to get them to their feet for slaughter. The USDA bans such animals from human consumption because they are more likely to have diseases like mad cow. The plant is now shut down. Two workers face jail time. But Congress wants an investigation because the u-s-d-a didn't discover the abuse. It was an undercover humane society investigation. The California company sold meat in 36 states including many school lunch programs.

02/19/08

10pm

What's it worth to protect the planet from a satellite crashing to earth and spewing toxic rocket fuel? At least 40 million dollars. More than a year ago, the U.S. Government launched this spy satellite only to discover it's faulty. Tomorrow the Navy plans to shoot it down with a missile. The missile alone costs 10 million dollars, the entire process 40 million. But chances of a direct hit the first time are slim so a second missile will probably be needed. If the satellite falls to the earth, its full tank of fuel could be a deadly hazard.

HEALTH & SAFETY Q-1 cont.

02/29/08

10pm

Wesley Medical Center is monitoring nine newborns with MRSA. The babies aren't infected or sick by the bacteria it's only present on their skin. The hospital tests all babies weekly for the staph bacteria. They do it as a precaution because MRSA is becoming more prevalent in the community. And if a baby were to become sick it would need special antibiotics. Right now the nine babies are kept separate from others. Hospital staff and visitors wear gowns and wash their hands frequently to keep it from spreading. It spreads through direct contact and many people carry it but never know it. We checked with Via Christi they do not currently test all babies for MRSA. The hospital plans to start testing all new patients sometime this year.

03/08/08

10pm

A shortcut across Kellogg sends a man to a Wichita hospital. Police say around one this morning four men walked to Wal-Mart using the Dugan street crosswalk. On their way back the men crossed Kellogg thinking it would be a quicker way out of the cold. An SUV hit one of the men; he's listed in critical condition tonight.

03/09/08

10pm

We open the HealthWatch tonight...as an investigation by the associated press finds large amounts of prescription drugs in the nation's drinking water. The drugs include antibiotics, over-the-counter medications, even sex hormones. Although scientists say the amounts are tiny they are worried about the consequences of long-term exposure for some 41-million Americans. For a look at the areas tested and to find out how you can safely dispose of your prescriptions go to www.kwch.com

03/10/08

10pm

The city of Hutchinson is also cleaning up another mess one left by the increasing pigeon population. With growing property damage and health concerns local businesses brought in pest control experts to attack the problem with toxic corn. Cameras are used to make sure only pigeons get the feed. They've not trying to eliminate pigeons, just limit the number in certain areas.

03/10/08

10pm

Think your tap water is pure? Think again. The Associated press studied water from two dozen metropolitan areas. It found trace amounts of drugs, from birth control pills to drugs for livestock, to prescription pain killers and anti-depressants. Americans get billions of prescriptions a year. It all gets flushed through our systems into the water supply. The EPA doesn't even require water providers to test for drugs! Kansas was not included in the test.

03/12/08

10pm

Ness County dispatchers get a call from a man asking for help for his girlfriend. It wasn't 'til paramedics arrived they found the woman stuck on a toilet. Crews had to break the toilet seat which was attached to the woman and forcibly take her to a hospital. The boyfriend says the woman has lived in the bathroom for the past two years. Neighbors say they can't believe this happened. Investigators tell us the woman has mental problems and may have considered the bathroom her safe place. She's now in fair condition at a Wichita hospital.

HEALTH & SAFETY Q-1 cont.

03/13/08

10pm

His girlfriend lived in the bathroom for two years. Now he may face charges for not getting her help soon enough. The Ness County Sheriff recommended mistreatment charges to the county attorney. The couple lives in this Ness City mobile home. Last month the boyfriend called 911 asking for help. Emergency workers found her stuck to the toilet. She had lost feeling in her legs. Crews had to break the toilet seat which was still attached to the woman when they brought her to a Wichita hospital.

03/15/08

10pm

Fire investigators pay a visit to Club Rodeo but they're not there for dancing. They say the club was well under its capacity of 15-hundred people last night. The surprise visit comes after a bar-brawl the night before left several people including some police officers hurt. At that time police said the club was at or over capacity. But the bar manager says the police were wrong on how many people his club can legally hold.

03/16/08

10pm

A man from Oberlin, Kansas dies in a crash Saturday night. Police say the driver rolled his SUV in Decatur County. Dwayne Dickinson a passenger in the vehicle died. Four other people were hurt. A medical helicopter took three of them to hospitals in Denver. Police say no one in the SUV had a seat belt on.

03/17/08

10pm

Workers finish adding razor wire to the El Dorado correctional facility. Crews are now working on moving the exercise areas from behind the cell houses to in between them. The prison says doing so will allow guards to keep a closer eye on inmates. Both projects are an attempt to beef up security at the prison after the escape of two inmates last October. Jesse Bell and Steven Ford broke out with the help of a prison employee. All three were caught in New Mexico.

03/22/08

10pm

A ConsumerWatch alert for you tonight...as a company recalls thousands of Easter eggs. Hobby Lobby says more than 13-thousand eggs sold at its stores contain high levels of lead. The products are camouflage Easter egg with the item number 1031. The recall also includes the Easter spinning egg tops numbered 1054. Hobby Lobby says the eggs come from China and the paint is toxic. If you have any the products return them to the store for an exchange card.

03/23/08

10pm

The government wants Kansans to buy flood insurance. The Federal Emergency Management agency says only one-percent of Kansas homes had flood insurance last year. The government says everyone living in areas of low to moderate risk should have insurance. Nearly a quarter of the claims filed in 2007 were from people living in these areas.

03/26/08

10pm

A three-year-old little girl goes to the hospital with burns over much of body. It happened late this afternoon at the imperial motel on South Broadway. Police say the girl was burned by hot water that was being used for cooking. The girl lives in the motel with her parents and two siblings. Police are investigating, but say it appears to be an accident. The girl is in serious condition at a Via Christi Saint Francis Hospital.

HEALTH & SAFETY Q-1 cont.

03/27/08

10pm

New information tonight about the death of a one year old found not breathing at a Wichita daycare. Tonight this daycare's license is suspended. The state says it's necessary to protect children. In the paperwork suspending the daycare's license state regulators say the baby sitter put Kailee Hundley in a car seat that was too small for her and was not able to fasten the lower strap because the child was too big. The child was then placed in a bathroom in the laundry. And was not checked for two and half hours, at which time she found the child limp, slumped over and her lips were blue. Kailee's family told us there were bruises on the child's neck and something might have gotten wrapped around her neck. Tomorrow morning police are expected to release autopsy results. Investigators hope that will help determine the cause of death.

03/28/08

10pm

A practice drill goes bad and turns into a training accident. Our camera was rolling when it happened. One of the training explosives didn't blow. As Officer Pat Firebaugh went to pick it up it went off. He is a rose hill school resource officer. He was taken to a hospital as a precaution but wasn't seriously hurt.

03/29/08

10pm

A Ulysses girl is in stable condition at a Texas hospital. 16-year-old Jennifer Longfellow was driving when she pulled in front of a semi Thursday afternoon. The crash killed four of her friends. A community memorial service is planned for Monday. It starts at seven o'clock at the Grant County Civic Center.

03/30/08

10pm

Construction begins tomorrow on one of Wichita's busiest intersections I-235 and Central. More than 30-thousand drivers commute through the area each day. Now, the city plans to make upgrades to allow more cars to make left turns to get on the interstate. Traffic will be down to one lane in both directions over the next seven months. Workers hope to complete the project by October at a cost of about three-million dollars. Federal grants will help pay for the changes.

POLITICS Q-1

01/01/08

10pm

Days before the Iowa Caucus; John McCain enlists the help of Sam Brownback. Back in October, the Kansas Senator dropped out of the Presidential race. Now Brownback is Co-Chair of Catholics for McCain. McCain hopes to win the Christian conservative vote whose support he lost years ago when he criticized Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson.

01/04/08

10pm

Iraqi insurgents attack a U.S. troop's unit killing two Fort Riley soldiers. Major Andrew Olmsted, 37 and Captain Thomas Casey, 32 died January third. Both suffered from wounds when insurgents attacked their unit using small arms fire during combat operations. Both men were assigned as advisers to the Iraqi forces. To date, 140 Fort Riley Soldiers and Airmen have died while serving in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

01/09/08

10pm

Candidates must register to participate in the Kansas caucus. Signed up on the democratic side are Hillary Clinton, John Edwards, Mike Gravel, Dennis Kucinich and Barack Obama. Bill Richardson also registered but today he announced he is dropping out of the race. Today was the last day republicans could file for the caucus. Rudy Giuliani, John McCain, Ron Paul, Mike Huckabee, Mitt Romney, Alan Keyes and Fred Thompson, are all registered.

01/13/08

10pm

An Emporia lawmaker plans to take on violent and offensive rap lyrics this session. Representative Peggy Mast plans on introducing a resolution condemning gangsta rap. Albums like these often talk about shootings and sometimes de-grade women. Local rappers say the songs can be offensive but so can a lot of other forms of entertainment. The resolution wouldn't ban the music...it would just mean lawmakers don't support it. Connecticut is the only state to have a resolution condemning gangsta rap.

01/15/08

10pm

Smokers, another tax hike may be on the way. In the governor's budget she asks for a 50-cent tax increase per pack to raise millions of dollars for health care. She wants future casino money to reduce state debt and repair college campuses. The governor's budget also pays for you to get into state parks for free. And Sebelius wants to give state workers a two and a half percent pay raise. Her budget is not final...she and lawmakers will have to agree on a plan this year.

01/17/08

10pm

Kansas finds out tomorrow who the state's new attorney general will be. Governor Sebelius' choice will replace current A.G. Paul Morrison. He leaves the office this month after admitting an affair with a former staffer. She also accused him of professional misconduct, which he has denied. At 11 tomorrow morning the governor will make the announcement. We'll have the story on www.kwch.com as soon as it's available.

POLITICS Q-1 cont.

01/18/08

10pm

A Lawrence judge is named the next Kansas Attorney General. Today Governor Kathleen Sebelius announced Steve Six will take over as A.G. Six replaces Paul Morrison who resigned last month because of a sex scandal. Sebelius says Six's experience as a lawyer and judge makes him an ideal choice. Six says it was a family decision to accept the job. His wife and four children joined him at today's announcement. In the wake of the Morrison scandal Sebelius says a stable life is important. Six would not say whether he plans to run for election in three years. He says his focus now is getting up-to-speed on the job.

01/24/08

10pm

Super Tuesday is just two weeks away. On February 5th, 24 states will hold primaries or caucuses including Kansas. Republicans will meet in 67 places across the state. Tomorrow is the last day to register if you want to participate. Democrats will have caucuses in 40 locations where you can register at the caucus site that night.

01/25/08

10pm

The rebuilding of Greensburg is about get some national attention. The city administrator will have a front row seat for Monday's state of the union address. Steve Hewitt left this afternoon for Washington DC. The White House asked him last week if he'd like to sit with Laura Bush during the nationally televised speech. President Bush will discuss Greensburg when he talks about the environment. Greensburg plans to build many of its buildings to the highest rating given to environmentally friendly construction projects.

01/26/08

10pm

Soon you could have to show your ID before casting a ballot. State Republicans have formally endorsed legislation requiring anyone voting in Kansas to show a photo ID. People would also have to show ID when they register to vote. Supporters say the measure will combat election fraud and prevent illegal immigrants from casting ballots. Critics contend the law will hurt voter turnout.

01/27/08

10pm

Covering Kansas tonight; the state Ethics Commission is looking into whether Phill Kline misused 5-thousand dollars left over from his unsuccessful Attorney General campaign. The money went to pay cell phone bills and gifts. State law does not allow payment of business expenses and gifts that are not part of a political campaign. A spokesman for Kline says paying cell phone bills with the money was a careless error.

01/28/08

10pm

Tonight President Bush delivered his final State of the Union Address. He talked about Iraq and the economy but focused most of his attention on what he called "un-finished business." The president outlined his goals for the final year of his administration. Among them; passage of a 150-billion dollar economic stimulus package. He also vowed to veto bills that don't significantly reduce congressional spending. As he has in past years the president urged continued patience in Iraq and said the surge is producing results.

POLITICS Q-1 cont.

01/29/08

10pm

We wanted to know if Obama's visit would change your vote. In an exclusive FactFinder 12 scientific survey we asked 500 Kansans are you more likely to vote for candidates who come to Kansas? 31 percent say you're more likely, eight percent say you're less likely and 61 percent say it makes no difference. When asked if Kansas should hold a caucus or primary every presidential election year? 76 percent of you want one Every Presidential Election Year. 10 percent say only in certain election years.

01/31/08

10pm

Kansas has a new Attorney General tonight. During a ceremony in Topeka retired Supreme Court Justice Fred Six swore in the new Attorney General, who also happens to be his son. Stephen Six replaces Paul Morrison who resigned after admitting to an extra-marital affair. Six will serve out the remaining three years of Morrison's term.

02/04/08

10pm

Supporters of Hillary Clinton turned out in Wichita tonight to hear the candidate speak but Clinton wasn't anywhere near Kansas. 22 cities across the country were hosts to this national town hall meeting. Vickie Stangl had the opportunity to ask a question to Clinton live on behalf of Wichita. Clinton put on the meeting as a final push before tomorrow's Super Tuesday. Supporters who didn't get the chance to speak still say it's important to hear her answers to other people's questions. About one hundred people packed this restaurant to watch town hall meeting. It was also shown live on the Hallmark channel and streamed on the internet.

02/05/08

10pm

Those in Salina dealt with long lines too. It was 7:45 when the last person checked in, and some were turned away those that were not in line by 7:00. But inside those waiting to Caucus were excited. The young and old turned out in record numbers. The last time a Caucus was held in this district only 31 people showed up; this time 626 came, so many people they had to be moved into another room and hallway. Unlike the Republican Caucus, 17 year olds who will turn 18 before November 4th are allowed to participate, a few showed up to check out the candidates and see what caucusing is all about. After counting, the winner was Obama with 472, Clinton came in with 144. Now they will send 7 delegates for Obama and 2 for Clinton on April 12th for the district convention in Hays.

02/06/08

10pm

Republican presidential candidate Mike Huckabee is coming to Kansas. A party official tells Eyewitness News that Huckabee will be in Wichita this Friday. An event is scheduled for 11am. An exact location has yet to be determined. Word of the visit comes hours after the Sedgwick County Republican party told us that Huckabee, John McCain and Mitt Romney would all come to Kansas before Saturday's caucus. Kansas will be one of three states holding GOP contests that day and the party hopes for a large turnout. McCain leads the delegate count after Super Tuesday. Romney, Huckabee and Ron Paul say they have no plans to drop out 36 delegates are up for grabs here in Kansas. For the latest on the candidate visits, and a list of locations and instructions about Saturday's Republican caucus go to www.kwch.com

02/09/08

10pm

Many of the volunteers at the caucus were under the age of 30. They directed people to their seats and helped people understand the ballots. Many say it's time for young people to get involved in the political process. They say the decisions the next president makes will impact their generation more than others. There were 67 caucus sites across the state today. The Republican Party says about 150-volunteers helped out at the century two location.

POLITICS Q-1 cont.

02/10/08

10pm

Registered Republicans outnumber registered Democrats almost 2-to-1 in Kansas. But you wouldn't know it by the turnout during last week's caucuses. The Democratic caucus on Tuesday brought out 37-thousand people. The Republican caucus yesterday saw 20-thousand voters. Even so the Kansas Republican party says they're pleased with the numbers. There are more than 7-hundred-60 thousand registered Republicans in the state compared to 438-thousand Democrats. Barack Obama won the Democratic caucus while Mike Huckabee won the GOP contest.

02/13/08

10pm

The Kansas Senate approves a bill allowing two coal-fired plants in southwest Kansas-with no new rules on carbon dioxide. The bill's in response to the decision in October blocking Sunflower Electric from building the plants outside Holcomb because of environmental concerns. The Senate vote was 32 to 3 to drop emissions rules. Final approval tomorrow sends the bill to the house-which is working on its own energy bill.

02/14/08

10pm

Where will the Sumner County casino go? Tonight debate over the location was heated. Right now Mulvane's planning and zoning commission is meeting. They are expected to decide whether to recommend a change in zoning so Harrah's can build a casino. More than 100 people showed up for the meeting. Both the cities of Mulvane and Wellington are fighting for the casino. Last week the city of Wellington filed suit against Mulvane for how the town annexed the land for the casino. Ultimately four state owned casinos will be built in these four counties. The legislature passed the law allowing them last year.

02/20/08

10pm

Some see this as a way to legalize gay marriage. Others think this is an equal rights issue. Last August unmarried couples in Lawrence began registering for the city's domestic partnership. It provides proof of a relationship for couples whose employer might provide health insurance. Now the house is considering a bill to end the Lawrence registry. It says domestic relation laws should be uniform across the state.

02/21/08

10pm

We wanted to know how you're going to vote. In a FactFinder 12 scientific survey we asked 514 registered Kansas voters if the presidential election were today, and Republican John McCain and Democrat Hillary Clinton were on the ballot, who would you vote for? 59 percent say McCain. 35 percent say Clinton. A closer race between McCain and Barack Obama. 50 percent say you'd vote for McCain. 44 percent would cast a ballot for Obama.

02/22/08

10pm

Monday negotiations begin; both the House and Senate passed energy bills. But there are differences. Each proposal allows Sunflower Electric to build two coal plants outside Holcomb near this already existing plant. But the house measure mandates five percent of the state's energy come from renewable sources by 2012. Two Senators and three House representatives will come together next week to draft the final version of the energy bill.

POLITICS Q-1 cont.

02/25/08

10pm

The city of Mulvane asks the court to throw out a lawsuit over the way it annexed land for a casino. It pieced together strips of property from the city limits to the other side of the turnpike-in hopes of being picked as the site for the Sumner County casino. Because the connection is not continuous Sumner County called the move illegal and sued. Attorneys for Mulvane filed a motion today to dismiss the case.

02/26/08

10pm

Belle Plaine could get involved with a Sumner County casino. A developer wants the city to annex land and endorse MGM Foxwoods near the Mulvane turnpike exit. MGM Foxwoods needs a local government's support to still be considered for the state contract. Many in Belle Plaine say they don't want to get involved. They don't want to do what Mulvane did. Piecing strips of land together to annex and endorse Harrah's. Sumner County sued Mulvane over it. Saturday is a public hearing on the casino issue. It's at ten at the high school.

02/28/08

10pm

Tomorrow the House will vote on changes to the state's stalking laws. If approved, the stalking bill will go to the Senate. Last week Jodi Sanderholm's father testified in Topeka asking lawmakers to learn from his daughter's death. Jodi's law would more clearly define stalking making it easier to send offenders to trial. Prosecutors say Jodi was stalked before being kidnapped, raped and murdered.

03/02/08

10pm

Senators Pat Roberts and Sam Brownback will meet with the Air Force tomorrow. They want to know why Boeing lost a contract to build the military's new refueling tanker. We're told the meeting will take place in Roberts' Washington office sometime on Monday. The Pentagon awarded the 40-billion dollar contract Los Angeles based Northrop Grumman and Airbus based in France.

03/04/08

10pm

The Kansas Congressional delegation is still struggling to understand why Boeing lost the tanker deal. Today Senator Pat Roberts took the issue to the U.S. Senate floor. Roberts says it's unacceptable that Boeing still doesn't know why it lost the job. He wants the air force to debrief the company so the public can understand the decision. Boeing says, the air force told the company a debriefing will happen March 12th.

03/05/08

10pm

The House passes a coal plant bill. It would allow sunflower electric to build two plants outside Holcomb, near this already existing plant. But it does not have the two thirds majority vote needed to override an expected veto from the governor.

03/06/08

10pm

A bill that allows two coal-fired power plans in Holcomb is now on the governor's desk. The bill also limits the authority of the Health and Environment Secretary; the same person who denied a permit for the plants. The Senate passed the bill today. Governor Sebelius promises to veto it; but the House may not have enough votes to override that veto, it needs 84 and it passed the bill with only 75. Find out how your lawmakers voted. Go to www.kwch.com

POLITICS Q-1 cont.

03/07/08

10pm

Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius campaigns for Barack Obama in Mississippi. Voters there head to the polls on Tuesday. And with race for the Democratic nomination so close Sebelius says now is no time to slow down. Former President Bill Clinton is also in Mississippi helping Hillary Clinton try to win the state's 33 delegates. Mississippi's primary is the last contest until Pennsylvania votes on April 29th.

03/10/08

10pm

Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama know every delegate is worth fighting for. Tonight Obama is campaigning in Mississippi hoping to add to his delegate count with a win there tomorrow. He took Clinton to task for suggesting he'd be a fine number two. Tonight Hillary Clinton is focusing on next month's Pennsylvania primary where 188 delegates are at stake. Her husband is holding down the fort in Mississippi.

03/18/08

10pm

The Kansas House passes a bill to tighten restrictions on late term abortions. It requires women having a late term abortion receive a copy of documents stating the reason for the procedure. And before getting an abortion women would have to see an ultrasound and listen to their unborn child's heartbeat. The measure now moves onto the Senate.

03/21/08

10pm

Governor Sebelius uses her veto power to stop coal plants from being built in Kansas. Sunflower Electric wants to build two plants in Holcomb near this already existing one. Last year KDHE denied the company's permit for the project saying it would create pollution. So Lawmakers passed a bill allowing the plants. Today the governor vetoed it. The house needs a two-third majority to override the veto.

03/23/08

10pm

State lawmakers once again talk about banning smoking in public places this week. Tomorrow members of an international cigar organization will testify in Topeka. They say the issue is about freedom of choice and economics. They believe people should be allowed to decide if they want to go to a business regardless of whether it allows smoking. With the legislative session more than half over some in Topeka say a ban likely won't pass this year.

03/24/08

10pm

The Senate will consider a state smoking ban. It would prohibit smoking in almost every public place in Kansas; except the Cherokee County Casino, certain areas of assisted living homes and tobacco shops.

03/25/08

10pm

Fewer polling places but more options. Sedgwick County prepares for record turnouts in the November presidential election and wants to make sure you know where to vote. It will be the first presidential election since the county consolidated polling sites. This is how many polling sites existed before 2005, this is how many there are now, a significant cut. Which led the Sedgwick County Voter Coalition to ask election officials to add 20 sites? But the election commissioner says that's not necessary because the county can accommodate more machines and more people. Many voters will also take advantage of mail-in and advance voting. The election commissioner is considering sending out a mailer with all the options. But you can also find them online through a link at www.kwch.com

POLITICS Q-1 cont.

03/27/08

10pm

They want something to honor their fallen children and Kansas mothers may get it. Today the Senate passed the gold star license plate bill. It would give a special license plate to mothers of fallen soldiers. The governor must now sign it into law.

03/28/07

10pm

The Kansas House passes an immigration reform bill that some of its original supporters voted against. They say too much was taken out of it to be effective. The legislation would require all Kansas businesses to check employees' legal status with a federal verification system. If caught with an illegal immigrant on the payroll businesses would face sanctions such as probation and fines. The penalties are less severe than penalties originally proposed. Still, the Wichita independent business association is among those against the bill. Opponents say immigration reform is something the federal government should do.