

Issues/Public Affairs
2nd Quarter 2022
WVNN-AM Athens, AL

In our ongoing effort to serve the public interest, WVNN broadcasts programming responsive to issues of concern to the entire Huntsville/Decatur Metropolitan area. Our programming also discusses issues important to the entire state of Alabama and the nation. The following contains summaries of public affairs broadcasts that aired.

Program: Info Trak
Date: Sun Apr 3 6:00am
Length: 8:09

Gary L. Freed, MD, MPH, pediatrician, co-director of the University of Michigan Health C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health

Dr. Freed led a nationwide poll that found that more than a quarter of parents say their adolescent-aged child has seen a mental health specialist, with nearly 60% of those reporting a visit within the past year. He said even before the pandemic, mental health disorders in adolescents, such as depression and anxiety, were prevalent. He added that lockdowns, school closings and isolation exacerbated these problems. He talked about common obstacles encountered by parents who seek mental health treatment for their children.

Issues covered:
Adolescent Mental Health
Parenting

Program: Info Trak
Date: Sun Apr 10 6:20am
Length: 5:10

Christina Abdel-Shaheed, PhD, Early Career Development Fellow at the School of Public Health at University of Sydney

Virtually every medicine is known to cause at least a few unintended side effects. Dr. Abdel-Shaheed led a study that examined immune responses linked to acetaminophen (Tylenol), non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs like ibuprofen, and opioid analgesics. The results were mixed, and she explained the varying effects and the implications in combating various infectious conditions – including COVID-19.

Issues covered:

Personal Health

Program: Info Trak

Date: Sun Apr 17 6:15am

Length: 5:10

Whitney Goodman, licensed psychotherapist, owner of the Collaborative Counseling Center, a private therapy practice in Miami, author of *“Toxic Positivity: Keeping It Real in a World Obsessed With Being Happy”*

Ms. Goodman explained the concept of “toxic positivity,” in which society constantly tells people that the key to happiness is silencing negativity. She outlined simple ways to experience and work through difficult emotions, leading to more authenticity, connection, and personal growth.

Issues covered:

Mental Health

Program: Info Trak

Date: Sun May 1 6:00am

Length: 8:35

Sadé Lindsay, PhD, sociologist in the Cornell Brooks School of Public Policy at Cornell University

Many prisons offer vocational training and other educational opportunities for inmates. However, Dr. Lindsay led a study that found that the formerly incarcerated face a “prison credential dilemma” when deciding whether to use credentials from prison when seeking employment. Her study found that just 2 of 50 former inmates were successful in using their prison education credentials to find a job. She talked about the most common programs offered in prisons.

Issues covered:

Criminal Justice

Education

Employment

Program: Info Trak

Date: Sun May 15 6:10am

Length: 8:39

Michelle Johnson-Motoyama, PhD, Associate Professor at Ohio State University's College of Social Work

A first-of-its-kind national study at Ohio State University found that a special program designed to help some families at risk of child maltreatment has been surprisingly successful. Prof. Johnson-Motoyama was the lead author and she found the program resulted in a 17% reduction in foster care use. She said "differential response" was developed as an alternative pathway for CPS workers to help families who came to their attention but were at lower risk of child maltreatment.

Issues covered:

Foster Care

Child Abuse and Neglect

Program: Info Trak

Date: Sun May 22 6:08am

Length: 9:53

Leonie Segal, PhD, expert in child abuse and neglect, Foundation Chair of Health Economics and Social Policy at the School of Health Sciences at the University of South Australia

Prof. Segal led a study that found that reading aloud can triple a child's resilience at school, particularly for children who have suffered maltreatment or neglect. She noted that there is an acute need to support these children and their families, especially before the children start school, and that reading is a key factor for success. She also discussed her research into the inter-generational effects of child abuse.

Issues covered:

Child Abuse

Literacy & Education

Parenting

Program: Info Trak

Date: Sun June 5 6:15am

Length: 9:10

Martha Khlopin, Medicare expert, nationally syndicated radio host, founder of Get2insurance.com

Medicare, the federally-funded health insurance program for people age 65 or older, is a complex program and it can be overwhelming for those approaching retirement age.

Ms. Khlopin outlined the basics of what Americans need to know about the program, what it covers, when

to enroll and how to enroll. She said the average person needs at least some guidance, but finding a knowledgeable and non-biased advisor is difficult.

Issues covered:

Medicare

Senior Citizens

Program: Info Trak

Date: Sun June 12 6:00am

Length: 8:11

Greg Brannon, Director of Automotive Engineering and Industry Relations at AAA National

Mr. Brannon discussed a recent AAA survey that asked consumers about their attitudes towards self-driving cars. Drivers overwhelmingly said they want automakers to improve the performance of existing driver support features rather than develop self-driving cars. He also discussed the latest round of AAA testing that revealed that inconsistent performance remains a problem with active driving assistance systems used in the newest cars, resulting in crashes. The failures occurred regardless of vehicle make and model.

Issues covered:

Traffic Safety

Consumer Matters

Program: Info Trak

Date: Sun June 19 6:10am

Length: 7:48

Kathleen Martin Ginis, PhD, Professor in the School of Health and Exercise Sciences at the University of British Columbia

Dr. Ginis led a study that found that just a half-hour of exercise can have a profound effect on a woman's body image, making her feel both stronger and thinner. She noted that women, in general, have a tendency to feel negative about their bodies and, she explained how that poor body image can have negative implications for a woman's psychological and physical health.

Issues covered:

Women's Issues

Mental Health

Program: Info Trak

Date: Sun June 26 6:20am

Length: 7:28

Geoffrey Tofler, Professor of Preventative Cardiology, University of Sydney (Australia), Senior Staff Specialist in Cardiology, Royal North Shore Hospital

Prof. Tofler led a study that found that about one in five amateur athletes over age 35 had one or more possible cardiac symptom during a soccer game in the prior year, but only a quarter of them sought medical attention. He talked about the potential symptoms and risks, and explained why immediate treatment is vital.

Issues covered:

Personal Health