

Public Affairs Programming  
Third Quarter 2023

Program: Perspective

Air Date: July 9

Run Time: Approximately 25 minutes

Guests: John Clay  
Sports Columnist  
Lexington Herald-Leader

Bob Babbage  
Principal: Babbage Co-Founder

Topics: Horse Racing: Thoroughbred & Political

The race is on at Kentucky's horse tracks --to beat a deadline.  
To put in place, what once they would have fought as competition: betting on other sports.

Kentucky's Horse Racing Commission meets tomorrow to start drafting rules for how to do it--trying to be ready before the NFL season opens this Fall.

But amid all that-- the Commonwealth's largest track-- Churchill Downs'--and arguably-- racing's most celebrated--and criticized trainer--are at it again.

The track banning Bob Baffert from next year's Derby--extending his suspension another year and a half--through the end of next year.

Kentucky also is eighteen weeks away from deciding whether to give Democrat Andy Beshear a second term as Governor or to replace him --with its Republican Attorney General--Daniel Cameron.

The Commonwealth's political gnash and gnash--the Saint Jerome Parish Picnic at Fancy Farm Picnic a day short of four weeks away & expected to be a showdown--and maybe a first blast of the winds blowing next year: the Presidential election.

Public Affairs Programming  
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Add One

Program: Perspective

Air Date: July 23

Run Time: Approximately 27 minutes

Guests: Brittany Roethemeier  
Executive Director  
Fayette Alliance

Topic(s): Urban Boundaries & Aggressive Drivers

No one questions that Lexington's horse farms help drive not only the economy--but tourism. They make the Urban County unique.

But developers and other advocates of growth say that the services boundary --what protects that land --is stifling growth if its not expanded again.

Recently --the Urban County Council agreed to expand it--by as many as five thousand acres: its first such expansion in 25 years. Now opponents are suing to block it.

You don't have to drive often or far to find road rage.  
Maybe you've been a victim.  
Maybe you've given into it.

But the numbers tell us--so-called aggressive driving is putting lives at risk.  
It's why Lexington Police have mounted an aggressive campaign the rest of the month;  
to stop it.

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Add Two

Program: Perspective

Air Date: July 30

Run Time: Approximately 30 Minutes

Guests: Joel Pett  
Former Political-Editorial Columnist  
Lexington Herald-Leader

Tim Barney  
Top Trumps USA

Topics: Pett Peeves & A Bluegrass Monopoly

Filmmaker -- animator--actor -and comedian extraordinnaire --Monty Python's Terry Gilliam--may have said it best:" I was doing political cartoons and getting angry--to the point where I felt I was going to have to start making and throwing bombs. I thought I was probably a better cartoonist than a bombmaker."

We could say the same for Joel Pett For 39 years--afflicting the comfortable -- comforting the afflicted --as the editorial cartoonist for Lexington's Herald-Leader.

His pen and his point--capturing a Pultizer Prize in 2000

Yet, earlier this month --The Herald-Leader's corporate parent--McClatchy Newspapers-- let him go. Readers' changing tastes -- they said.

Pett believes differently.

Over the years, Lexington has hosted Breeder's Cups. The World Equestrian Games. Even visits from Her Majesty --the Late Queen Elizabeth the Second.

But have you really made it--if you don't have your own game?

Lexington now does: it's highly localized version of Monopoly.

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Program: Perspective

Air Date: August 6

Run Time: Approximately 22 minutes

Guests: Eric Frankl  
President & CEO  
Blue Grass Airport  
Lexington, KY

Kevin Stinnett  
Editor  
The Lane Report  
Lexington, KY

Topics: Planes, Plans & Economic Progress

Lexington's Blue Grass Airport has come a long way from the days when its terminal was little bigger than a tract house; its airlines, little more than connectors to Cincinnati or Atlanta.

But it's been seventeen years since the last expansion.  
Flight capacities--passenger loads --in some cases--have doubled.

Time for a new master plan.  
And it means more than building out the terminal.  
More parking.  
Even moving the control tower itself.

Blue Grass Airport has a significant General Aviation presence -- but when you talk Air:UPS Worldport tends to dominate the conversation. 'Big Brown' means 25-thousand jobs in Louisville; they're among the more than 340 thousand UPS workers voting on a new five year contract by the end of the month.

But Brown's not the only player: head up to the Greater Cincinnati Airport in Northern Kentucky--rival DHL is going bigger too.

Public Affairs Programming  
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Program: Perspective

Air Date: August 13

Run Time: Approximately 24-and-one-half minutes

Guests: Gov. Andy Beshear  
D-Commonwealth of Kentucky

Daniel Cameron  
R-Attorney General/Candidate for Governor  
Commonwealth of Kentucky

Rep. Lindsey Tichenor  
R-Jefferson & Oldham Counties

Dr. Stephen Voss  
Associate Professor of Political Science  
University of Kentucky

Topics: Transgender Politics: By Age & the Governor's Race.

Commented [EW1]:

By far--the most inflammatory issue of Kentucky's legislative session this year: the new law that bans 'affirmative care' for transgender children and teenagers.

No gender-change surgeries. No hormone therapy. No medication known as puberty blockers.

Senate Bill 150 mirrors laws several red states have passed --that Republican Governors have signed and Democratic Governors have vetoed--the latter with no success.

No surprise then--that's become the primary battle ground as the Republican challenger--Attorney General Daniel Cameron--tries to deny Governor Andy Beshear a second term.

Beshear has made his views clear. Or has he? Does a letter change the facts?

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Program: Perspective

Air Date: August 20

Run Time: 30 minutes

Guests: Daniel Cameron  
R-Attorney General/Candidate for Governor  
Commonwealth of Kentucky

Gov. Andy Beshear  
D-Commonwealth of Kentucky

Topics: Education: Whose Money Goes Where?

In Kentucky, few -- if any voting blocs matter more than teachers.

They accounted for much if not most of the 5,000-vote margin that knocked Republican Matt Bevin OUT of the Governor's chair and put Democrat Andy Beshear in it --four years ago.

No surprise then--that Beshear and his Republican challenger--Attorney General Daniel Cameron--are courting them hard this cycle.

Public Affairs Programming  
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Program: Perspective

Air Date: August 27

Run Time: Approximately 25 minutes

Guests: Sen. Damon Thayer  
R-Majority Floor Leader  
Commonwealth of Kentucky

The Hon. Daniel Cameron  
R-Attorney General/Candidate for Governor  
Commonwealth of Kentucky

Gov. Andy Beshear  
D-Commonwealth of Kentucky

Topics: Campaigning & Governing

As expected, the last week of August has been Kentucky's hottest this year. Flirting with--if not breaking records--and loosening a torrent of rain heading into the weekend.

Whenever the cool-off comes, it reminds us that the Commonwealth's race for Governor grows hotter by the day.

The Republican challenger--Attorney General Daniel Cameron--notching some wins in the battle for endorsements: most notably, that of Kentucky's largest union for law enforcement: the Fraternal Order of Police. The FOP had backed then-challenger--now Incumbent--Andy Beshear four years ago.

This week's Perspective finds Cameron in friendly confines: State Senate Major Floor Leader Damon Thayer--guest-hosting Kruser & Krew--letting him expound on his platforms for keeping Kentucky safe-- and reforming schools.

By contrast: Governor Andy Beshear spent most of this past campaign week: being Governor -- claiming all of the responsibility and the credit--that entails.

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Add Seven

Program: Perspective

Air Date: September 3

Run Time: Approximately 30 minutes

Guests: Ginny Ramsey  
Catholic Action Center  
Lexington, KY

Gov. Andy Beshear  
(D) Commonwealth of Kentucky

Megan Coldiron  
Addict-in-Recovery: 11 years

Topics: Counting the Homeless; Making Recovery Count

Un-officially -- Labor Day Weekend is the last gasp of summer; this weekend's jump to the nineties notwithstanding.

It also reminds us that cooler--and soon colder temperatures -- create special challenges for those for whom home is the streets. But how many may need help?

How do you count Lexington's homeless--who, by definition--if not by choice--are transitory?

The Catholic Action Center—a major service-provider – uses different Criteria that may be more accurate and more reflective than the 'official numbers from the Urban County Government.

Another growing population is impossible to ignore: te victims of the Commonwealth's & our country's --addiction to Opioids.

Thursday--Overdose Awareness Day-- we got an update on the battle by the numbers--and the face of Recovery.



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Program: Perspective

Air Date: September 10

Run Time: Approximately 27 Minutes

Guests: Gov. Andy Beshear  
(D) Commonwealth of Kentucky

Mike Anderson  
President & CEO  
Churchill Downs Racetrack

John Clay  
Sports Columnist  
Lexington Herald-Leader

Chris McCarron  
Hall of Fame Jockey  
Thoroughbred Racing Commentator: NBC Sports

Topics: Betting on Other Than The Sport of Kings

Week 1 of the National Football League--Week 2 for most of College Football --and for the first time ever--you can bet on it in Kentucky--legally.

Sports Betting besides Horse Racing--fast-tracked in every sense of the words.

Lawmakers may have passed it by popular demand : but the Commonwealth's signature horse industry: has demanded--and gotten--sole power to run it.

The Racing Commission regulating it, the tracks owning it; in person betting only through their live-racing and off-track betting racinos. On-line by requiring betting apps to partner with one or more of them.

What brought the Commonwealth--the horse industry--to this? The need to survive--and thrive in equal measure.

Public Affairs Programming  
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Add Nine

Program: Perspective

Air Date: September 17

Run Time: Approximately 30 minutes

Guests: Ricardo Franklin  
Member, Anti-Violence Task Force  
Brother of Homicide Victim

Jennifer Reynolds  
Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council; District 11  
Chair: Anti-Violence Task Force

Chief Lawrence Weathers  
Lexington Police

David Sevigny  
Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council; District 10

Topic(s): Stopping Violence; Adding Serving Hours

This time a year ago -- Lexington was well on its way to setting its record of homicides for a single year: 34 of the 44 total. Going into this weekend, fewer than half as many: 15.

Much HAS changed: a different approach to working with at risk teenagers and twenty-somethings. Police strategies and patrols--from High-tech Flock cameras to Beat cops.

Part One of this week's Perspective: the multi-pronged job of Lexington's New Anti-Violence Task Force.

Part Two: the driving force behind changing the last of Lexington's 'Blue Law'; broadening hours for serving alcohol on Sundays.

Public Affairs Programming  
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Add Ten

Program: Perspective

Air Date: September 24

Run Time: Approximately 23 minutes

Guests: Jeremy Russell  
President  
Bluegrass Lodge #4  
Kentucky Fraternal Order of Police

Bob Babbage  
Former State Auditor-Secretary of State  
Commonwealth of Kentucky  
Principal: Babbage Co-Founder

Topics: Wanted: Police & In Memoriam: Gov. Brereton Chandler Jones

The past four years --Lexington Police have made major strides in pay. At least two significant raises--such that the average officer makes about a third more than prior to the COVID pandemic. Rookie officers--starting pay --about 40 percent higher than 2019.

And yet--the head of the Officers' Union Local --says is down more than 130 officers. This force is hardly alone. Why has law enforcement become a job category so difficult to fill?

This week saw the Commonwealth lose a former Governor -- whose legacy in its signature industry may be even deeper than even his four years in that first -floor office. Brereton Chandler Jones was --by definition --a transplant. Who began his political career in West Virginia--as a Republican.

At 25--the youngest elected to the Mountaineer States' House of Delegates. Marriage--and a move to Midway--would see him switch his affiliation to the then majority--Democratic Party--even as he built his wife Libby's heritage farm: Airdrie-into a premier breeding and racing institution.

As Governor--he would push ethics reforms for the Executive Branch--and insurance reforms--for better health care.

Public Affairs Programming  
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Add Eleven

Program: Perspective

Air Date: October 1

Runtime: Approximately 29 minutes, 30 seconds

Guests: Laura Babbage  
Catholic Action Center  
Lexington, KY

Doug Kelly  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Edge Project

Topics: Uncounted Homeless/Incalculable Digital Risks

One night in late August, the Catholic Action Center changed the methodology for counting the virtually uncountable: Lexington's homeless population.

The numbers are just shy of tripled:

751 adults in recovery programs.

412 unsheltered --be they in camps, cars or squatting in buildings.

406 sheltered

360 couch-surfers --place-to-place/

257 adults and 91 children in hotels or motels.

57 in hospitals--

76 in jail, or other detention centers.

Part 1 of this week's Perspective: breaks down the science, the suffering--and the 'now what' behind the numbers.

Part 2: The more complicated our digital presence becomes--the more difficult to keep it secure.



