

Kentucky Focus Responsive Issues Report, Second Quarter 2020

Bristol Broadcasting Company
Paducah, KY
Quarterly Issues/Programs List
6/30/2020

Newsmakers 4/4/2020

McCracken County Commissioner Bill Bartleman discusses a recent conference call with federal health officials and how it relates to the public health and economic impact of COVID-19 on our area (:00); Paducah Mayor Brandi Harless discusses programs to assist local businesses and residents in dealing with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, including extending the business license filing deadline and the city's small business relief fund program. (5:58); Shawna Rine from the Southern Seven Health Department discusses the importance of local residents filling out their census surveys. (11:43) TB

Newsmakers 04/12/2020

Dean Owen CPA discusses how small businesses that have been impacted by COVID-19 can apply for loans and other benefits. (:00); Mayor Brandi Harless discusses the many things the city is doing to help those impacted by COVID-19, including the local fund which provides funding for small businesses that have been impacted by the virus, and how individuals can apply for the funding. (5:00); Sally Michaelson discusses the needs of the Community Kitchen after the increase in individuals seeking meals due to the pandemic. (10:30-15:00) ES

Newsmakers 4/19/20

Local businessman George Bray discusses a local charitable fund he established called the "Tip Jar," to benefit workers in Paducah-area restaurants who have been effected by the novel coronavirus pandemic. His GoFundMe page is over halfway to its goal of \$50,000 to help families who are facing budgetary hardships due to lack of work, or if they are working, lack of tips due to absence of in-house diners (0:00-4:42); State Senator Danny Carroll of Paducah discusses the legislative session that just ended, and one bill that just missed passing by a technicality. Senate Bill 136 would have allowed chiropractors in Kentucky to have discretion to serve their medical clients for essential care if passed and signed by the Governor. Kentucky is the only state in which chiropractors are not allowed to practice, under an executive order by Governor Andy Beshear. Carroll believes the executive branch is interpreting the law in such a way that is too controlling, and is denying essential healthcare to many who need ongoing treatment (4:42-12:42); Bill Hughes reports on the recent shutdown of meal service to students by Calloway County Schools after at least one food service employee tested positive to COVID-19. Many

students in low income homes face food insecurity when school is in session. The pandemic complicates that process further, and the required quarantine of workers has led the district to seek help from area churches to help feed those who are most at risk (12:42-15:00). BH

Newsmakers 4/26/20

Kentucky House Speaker David Osborne discusses how the state legislature has made adjustments to the way they conduct business amid the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes the first ever use of remote voting. Also discussed was the recent budget passed and how it was affected by the economic impact of the virus. (:00); Attorney Jeff Alford discusses some of the legal ramifications and validity of COVID-19 executive orders issued by Governor Andy Beshear, and new regulations and procedures in the state court system. (9:20) TB

Newsmakers 5/03/20

City of Paducah Mayor, Brandi Harless, joins the Greg Dunker Show to provide an update on the Small Business Relief Fund. Harless discusses the accomplishments of the fund in regards to the businesses they have been able to help, encourages everyone to donate to the fund, and explains how a struggling businesses can sign up to receive funds. (0:00-8:12); Commonwealth Attorney Dennis Foust joins the Greg Dunker Show to discuss the Gabriel Parker Shooting Trial. Foust explains how the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic brought about the guilty plea, How the decision to reach an agreement may effect the families involved in the case, and where we go from here. (8:17-14:59). ES

Newsmakers 5/10/20

McCracken County Clerk Julie Griggs discusses the upcoming Primary Election, which has been moved from May 19 to June 23. She outlines what she knows so far about the process, including the strong recommendation that all voters use absentee balloting to cast their vote. She assures voters that her office has been handling these types of ballots for years and their votes are secure. Some of the process has not yet been set in place by the State Board of Elections, but she gives a general idea of how people can get an absentee ballot to vote by mail, or call to make an appointment for in-person voting at the courthouse between June 8 - 23. While she's not sure how many polling places will be open on June 23, she knows most precincts will not. She urges anyone with questions to call her office (0:00-7:01); Paducah Police Chief Brian Laird tells listeners how his department has adjusted to social distancing guidelines and other rules put in place during the pandemic. He discusses how office staff, patrol officers and others are doing their jobs, participating in meetings and interacting with the public on a daily basis, while trying to protect everyone from spreading the virus (7:15-14:45). BH

Newsmakers 5/17/20

Paducah Mayoral Candidate George Bray discusses various campaign issues, including a planned aquatic center in Paducah. He expresses concern that such a project is not financially viable and does not have broad public support. He also discussed a recent insurance tax that was passed to pay for the project. Bray also talks about his qualifications for office, and why residents should vote for him (:00); Eastland Life Church Pastor Brian Anderson talks about his recent statement at a Metropolis City Commission meeting where he advocated for the reopening of businesses and churches in southern Illinois. (9:25) TB

Newsmakers 5/24/20

Brian Anderson, Pastor of Eastland Life Church, while speaking with Greg Dunker, makes the case that our local governments are overreaching in their response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Anderson believes what is happening is a violation of our constitution and is attempting to encourage people to stand up to local governments all over the country, to be able to hold church services and open businesses. (0:00-11:35) Dave Winder with Murray State University discusses their plan for the summer and the next semester of schooling in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. He shares how the pandemic has affected the school's revenue, and what things might look like if things continue in the direction they've been going. He reveals that the school has released a line of gear to raise money to go towards scholarships. (11:35-15:00) ES

Newsmakers 5-31/20

Julie Griggs, McCracken County Clerk, discusses what voters can expect in the June 23 primary election, whether they are voting by mail with an absentee ballot, or voting in person at the courthouse (Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the process has been changed to encourage social distancing. These changes include removing restrictions on absentee voting so anyone can do it, and closing local precincts. In-person voting will take place only at the courthouse). Griggs describes how to get an absentee ballot, deadlines for requesting a ballot and when to mail it or bring it to the courthouse. She also explains in-person voting, which is available between June 8-22 and on election day on June 23. Griggs also discusses security measures in place to ensure absentee ballots are counted and fraud does not occur. (0:00 - 7:52); US Senator Mitch McConnell discusses his first public appearance since mid-March at Kentucky hospitals, thanking those who work in healthcare during the pandemic. He also discusses the possibility of another relief bill, current efforts to move toward more normal activities and re-energize the economy. McConnell also shares his opinion on the 101st Airborne's efforts helping fight the virus in the northeast, a recent protest against Governor Andy Beshear (he was hung in effigy near the state Capitol last week), his experiences working from home, how he has spent some of his spare time, and expectations for the rest of the year, with presidential elections on the horizon. (8:00 - 14:45) BH

Newsmakers 6/7/20

Richard Nelson of the Commonwealth Policy Center hosts a candidate forum featuring candidates for 1st Appellate District Court Judge. Judge Chris McNeil, Judge Renee Williams, and Judge Jennie Hines answer various questions about their backgrounds, views, and legal positions. (:00) TB

Newsmakers 6/14/20

Bill Hughes interviews Dr. Anton Reece with West Kentucky Community and Technical College. Reece provided an update on the school's placement in the Aspen Institute's college rankings, with the winning school being awarded \$1 million. Reece talks about the school placing in the top ten for the fifth time in a row, and describes the requirements to compete in the competition. (0:00 - 7:45) Easton Sanders discusses Gabriel Parker's day in court, followed by audio from his trial where he was convicted and sentenced. (7:45 - 14:53)

Newsmakers 6/21/20

J.W. Cleary and Patrick White of the Paducah-McCracken County Chapter of the NAACP hosted a series of three programs about race relations on "The First Friday Show." These were scheduled after recent protests and calls for change after the deaths of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd and others. They spoke to local educators about practical steps that have been taken or planned to bring positive change into the education system, particularly related to people of color. Paducah City Schools Superintendent Donald Shively, McCracken County Schools Superintendent Steve Carter, and West Kentucky Community and Technical College President Anton Reese discuss teacher/employee training and student awareness activities and the specific goals they have set to ensure success for every student. (0:00 - 14:45) BH

Newsmakers 6/28/20

Mark Wilson from Saint Jerome Catholic Church discusses plans to cancel political speaking at the 2020 Fancy Farm picnic due to concerns about the spread of COVID-19 (00:); Kentucky Farm Bureau's Across Kentucky discusses a recent court decision in California that threatens the ability of Kentucky farmers to use a popular herbicide, and how that will increase the cost of farming. (4:07); Farm Bureau Chief Economist Dr. John Newton discusses a push to get more financial help from Washington in the form of an increase in funding from the CFAP assistance package (5:07); Dr. Nancy Cox with the UK College of Agriculture discusses a program to study water resource management to find scientific answers to help farmers increase efficiency (6:09); Senator Mitch McConnell talks about the effects of COVID-19 on the commonwealth. (6:55); Richard Nelson at the Commonwealth Policy Center discusses a recent supreme court ruling that expands the definition of sex to include gender identity. (7:55) TB

