

**APTV**  
**Birmingham, AL**  
**PBS Quarterly Program Topic Report**  
**July 1, 2020 – September 30, 2020**

**American History/Biography**

Series Title: PBS NewsHour  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 7/10/2020 6:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: News (live news only)  
Segment Length: 00:07:18

Over the past few weeks, there has been extensive debate across the U.S. about statues depicting the Confederacy and other troubled aspects of American history. In the Capitol Hill neighborhood of Washington, D.C., the Emancipation Memorial – also known as the Freedman’s Memorial -- is one such symbol. Jeffrey Brown talks to four Black Americans to gauge differing views on the structure.

Series Title: Reagan: American Experience  
Episode Title: Lifeguard  
Length: 120 minutes  
Airdate: 8/4/2020 7:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: Documentary  
Segment Length: 01:42:34

In 1988, after two terms in office, Ronald Wilson Reagan left the White House, one of the most popular presidents of the twentieth century -- and one of the most controversial. A failed actor, Reagan became a passionate ideologue who preached a simple gospel of lower taxes, less government and anti-Communism. One by one, his opponents underestimated him; one-by-one, Reagan surprised them, rising to become a president who always preferred to see America as a shining city on a hill.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 9/17/2020 6:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: News (live news only)  
Segment Length: 00:06:43

Speaking at the White House Conference on American History on Thursday, President Trump announced he would be signing an executive order to create the “1776 Commission” to promote a “patriotic education.” Trump also blasted efforts to reexamine American history with a deeper emphasis on slavery and racism. Yamiche Alcindor joins Judy Woodruff to discuss Trump’s perspective on race.

## Culture

Series Title: Secrets of the Dead  
Episode Title: Viking Warrior Queen  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 7/7/2020 7:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Join a team of archaeologists as they examine one of the most significant Viking graves ever found and test the DNA of the remains of the female warrior buried inside, rewriting our understanding of Viking society.

Series Title: Forces of Nature  
Episode Title: Color  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 8/5/2020 9:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: Documentary  
Segment Length: 00:56:44

We can't directly see the forces that govern Earth, but we can see their shadows in the shapes of nature that surround us. If we understand why these shapes exist, we can understand the rules that bind the entire universe.

Series Title: NOVA | A to Z  
Episode Title: The First Alphabet  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 9/23/2020 8:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: Documentary  
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Writing shaped civilization itself, from the trading of goods to tales of ancient goddesses and kings. Follow the evolution of the written word, from millennia-old carvings in an Egyptian turquoise mine to our modern-day alphabets.

## Environment/Nature/Natural Disasters

Series Title: Spy in the Wild, A Nature Miniseries  
Episode Title: Friendship  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 7/1/2020 8:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: Documentary  
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Spy Creatures and their new wild friends rely on each other to look out for predators. A Spy Meerkat babysits meerkat pups while a Spy Cobra pretends to attack the mob. Spy Crocs witness a convenient partnership between real crocodiles and birds.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 8/3/2020 6:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: News (live news only)  
Segment Length: 00:05:27

In our news wrap Monday, coastal North and South Carolina braced for Hurricane Isaias. The storm is a minimal hurricane but will still challenge residents with another disruption during the coronavirus pandemic. Also, thousands of people in Southern California spent another day under evacuation orders as a wildfire burned east of Los Angeles. It began Friday and exploded in size over the weekend.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour  
Episode Title: Episode 63  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 9/25/2020 6:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: News (live news only)  
Segment Length: 00:05:40

During his first term, President Trump has rolled back or weakened more than 100 environmental regulations. On Friday, his administration moved to open up the country's largest national forest for development. Alaska's Tongass National Forest has been called "America's Amazon," and it absorbs about 8 percent of U.S. carbon dioxide emissions. Amna Nawaz talks to The New York Times' Coral Davenport.

## Family/Marriage

Series Title: Clinton: American Experience  
Length: 120 minutes  
Airdate: 7/21/2020 7:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: Documentary  
Segment Length: 01:53:28

From draft dodging to the Dayton Accords, from Monica Lewinsky to a balanced budget, the presidency of William Jefferson Clinton veered between sordid scandal and grand achievement. In CLINTON, the latest installment in the critically acclaimed and successful series of presidential biographies, AMERICAN EXPERIENCE explores the fascinating story of an American president who rose from a broken childhood in Arkansas to become one of the most successful politicians in modern American history and one of the most complex and conflicted characters to ever stride across the public stage.

Series Title: POV  
Episode Title: About Love  
Length: 90 minutes  
Airdate: 8/11/2020 12:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: Documentary  
Segment Length: 01:26:44

Three generations of the Phadke family live together in their home in Mumbai. When the youngest daughter turns the camera towards her family, the personal becomes political as power structures within the family become visible, and eventually unravel.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 9/14/2020 6:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: News (live news only)  
Segment Length: 00:06:13

When Jasson Howell Sr. received a mandatory 10-year federal prison sentence for heroin distribution, his family shared his punishment. Two of his four children went to live with his parents, who have worked tirelessly to raise their grandchildren while remaining connected to their son. Kim and Dale Howell share their Brief But Spectacular take on keeping their family together.

## Health/Healthcare

Series Title: PBS NewsHour  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 7/2/2020 6:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: News (live news only)  
Segment Length: 00:05:52

In our news wrap Thursday, the U.S. saw a record 50,000 new cases of COVID-19 in a single day as infections rise in 40 states. Florida set its own record for new cases with more than 10,000 -- but Gov. Ron DeSantis insisted the state is equipped to handle the crisis. Also, there were signs of U.S. economic recovery, with the Labor Department reporting the country added 4.8 million jobs in June.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 8/4/2020 6:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: News (live news only)  
Segment Length: 00:13:21

Unemployment benefits for millions of American expired last week and Congress and the White House are still struggling to come to an agreement on the next coronavirus relief package.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 9/1/2020 6:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: News (live news only)  
Segment Length: 00:09:19

In the United Kingdom, residents have long considered the National Health Service (NHS) one of the nation's greatest accomplishments. Across the Atlantic, U.S. Democrats have proposed a similar single-payer system for the U.S., but conservatives have raised alarms about access problems within the NHS. William Brangham reports as part of our series, The Best Health Care? America & the World.

### Minorities/Civil Rights

Series Title: PBS NewsHour  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 7/1/2020 6:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: News (live news only)  
Segment Length: 00:06:39

As the United States grapples with the novel coronavirus, nationwide protests sparked by the killing of George Floyd insist the country must confront a second epidemic: racism. Despite a longstanding belief that we are a nation divided, some say there are reasons for hope. Special correspondent Charlayne Hunter-Gault talks to New York Times columnist and author David Brooks for Race Matters.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 8/5/2020 6:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: News (live news only)  
Segment Length: 00:07:46

The killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis in May prompted calls to change the policing structure there. On Wednesday night, the city's charter commission will decide whether to ask voters to begin the process of abolishing the police force -- and to clarify what would replace it. Special correspondent Fred de Sam Lazaro reports.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 9/4/2020 6:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: News (live news only)  
Segment Length: 00:02:24

In parts of the U.S., there continue to be protests and outrage over police conduct and responses to demonstrations. In Rochester, New York, the family of Daniel Prude is calling for officers involved in his March death to be fired and charged. And a self-identified anti-fascist suspected of killing a right-wing protester in Portland, Oregon, was killed by law enforcement. Amna Nawaz reports.

## Science/Technology

Series Title: Prehistoric Road Trip  
Episode Title: Tiny Teeth, Fearsome Beasts  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 7/1/2020 9:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: Demonstration/Instructional  
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Join Emily as she continues her adventure, discovering surprising truths hidden in the fossil record. Meanwhile, scientists studying our planet's past are revealing clues about its future.

Series Title: NOVA  
Episode Title: Rise of the Mammals  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 8/5/2020 8:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS  
Format: Documentary  
Segment Length: 00:56:44

The discovery of a rare trove of fossils reveals in vivid detail how our own group of creatures - mammals - emerged after the asteroid impact that wiped out the great dinosaurs 66 million years ago.

Series Title: Hacking Your Mind  
Episode Title: Living on Auto-Pilot  
Length: 60 minutes  
Airdate: 9/9/2020 9:00:00 PM  
Service: PBS-NPS  
Format: Demonstration/Instructional  
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Take a trip around the world to discover how you go through life on auto-pilot, and get an auto-pilot owner's manual.

Alabama Public Television  
Quarterly Issues/Programming Report  
3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2020

***Capitol Journal***

7/10/20, 7:30p, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, health, crime

State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris joined us to discuss another Alabama record for daily coronavirus cases. Corrections Commissioner Jeff Dunn was with us to talk about the virus behind bars and about the governor's new prison construction plan. Secretary of State John Merrill joined us to discuss health and safety at the polls the following week. And U.S. Senate candidate Jeff Sessions was with us to talk about his upcoming Republican runoff election with Tommy Tuberville.

7/17/20, 7:30p, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, education, health

Alabama Superintendent of Education Dr. Eric Mackey joined us to discuss a revised school reopening plan he had just submitted to the governor. State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris was with us to talk about a new statewide mask ordinance and about a continued rise in virus cases and deaths. And Jerry Carl, the new Republican nominee for Alabama's 1<sup>st</sup> district congressional seat, joined us to discuss his win that week and his campaign moving forward.

7/24/20, 7:30p, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, race, crime, health

We reported on plans for the late Congressman and civil rights icon John Lewis to lie in state at the Alabama capitol that weekend. We were joined by Attorney General Steve Marshall, who discussed new state prison concerns raised by the Department of Justice. We were also joined by new GOP U.S. Senate nominee Tommy Tuberville, who talked about the campaign ahead against incumbent Democrat Doug Jones. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris was with us to discuss continued virus spikes and preparations for back-to-school and college football.

7/31/20, 7:30p, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, health, race, education

State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris joined us to discuss Gov. Kay Ivey extending the statewide masking ordinance for another month, as well as the updated coronavirus health orders. We were also joined by Clint Reid, the chairman of the College Republican Federation of Alabama. He talked about his group being among those calling for the resignation of Rep. Will Dismukes of Prattville over his Confederate associations. And Rep. Juandalynn Givan of Birmingham was with us to discuss her pre-filed bills dealing with moving Confederate monuments and with requiring black history courses in state schools.

8/7/20, 7:30p, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, crime, health

We reported on the arrest of Rep. Will Dismukes of Prattville on a felony theft charge. We were joined by U.S. Sen. Doug Jones, who discussed his hopes for a new federal virus aid package. State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris was also with us to discuss a downward trend in Alabama virus numbers. And ADECA Director Kenneth Boswell and Business Council of Alabama President and CEO Katie Britt joined us to talk about an upcoming event to encourage state residents to take part in the census.

8/14/20, 7:30p, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, needy, health

Speaker of the House Mac McCutcheon of Monrovia joined us to discuss the state possibly chipping in to help fund President Trump's extended federal unemployment benefits; Alabama Labor Secretary Fitzgerald Washington was with us to talk about jobless rate declines and a shrinking state unemployment fund; Senate Majority Leader Greg Reed of Jasper joined us to discuss the college football/pandemic debate. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris was with us to talk about a continued downward trend in daily Alabama virus numbers.

8/21/20, 7:30p, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, health

Alabama Democratic Party Chair Chris England joined us to analyze that week's Democratic National Convention and discuss his belief that Alabama would ultimately support Joe Biden for President; we were also joined by GOP 2<sup>nd</sup> district congressional nominee Barry Moore, who talked with us about the dysfunction in congress and how he believes he is ready for that challenge; State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris was with us to discuss how coronavirus cases in Alabama were continuing to trend down; and Judge David Money and Merceria Ludgood with the Association of County Commissions of Alabama joined us to discuss how counties had fared during the pandemic.

8/29/20, 7:30p, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, health

State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris joined us to discuss extending the statewide mask ordinance for another month. Tuscaloosa Mayor Walt Maddox was with us to talk about closing bars in his city for two weeks, to slow the spread of the virus. Congressman Mike Rogers of Saks joined us to predict that lawmakers wouldn't be able to agree on another virus aid package. And Alabama GOP chair Terry Lathan talked with us about that week's Republican National Convention.

9/4/20, 7:30p, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, health, crime

We were joined by State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris, who warned that large Labor Day gatherings could cause our virus numbers to spike again. We reported on Governor Kay Ivey announcing proposed sites for three new prisons and the developers who will negotiate to build them. House Minority Leader Anthony Daniels was with us to say that he didn't think the state could 'build its way out of its prison problems.' And Alabama League of Municipalities Executive Director Greg Cochran joined us to discuss how cities and towns had fared during the pandemic.

9/11/20, 7:30p, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, education, health, race

Superintendent of Education Dr. Eric Mackey joined us to discuss how the back-to-school season was faring in the midst of the pandemic. State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris was with us to talk about how virus-related hospitalizations were down significantly, and about a possible fall spike. Jefferson County Circuit Clerk Jackie Smith joined us for a 'ground-level' view of that week's start of absentee voting in the state. And Linden Mayor-elect Gwendolyn Rogers joined us to discuss being among a handful of first-time African American mayors elected in Alabama in August.

9/18/20, 7:30p, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, environment, needy, health, crime

We reported on the aftermath of Hurricane Sally along the Alabama coast. We were joined by Orange Beach Mayor Tony Kennon, whose city was among the hardest hit. State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris was also with us to discuss both hurricane zone health and safety and the latest pandemic developments. And Alabama Corrections Commissioner Jeff Dunn joined us to analyze proposed new prison construction details.

9/25/20, 7:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, crime, economic, health, race

Gov. Kay Ivey joined us to discuss hurricane relief, prisons, the census deadline, another gas tax increase and the looming expiration of her mask mandate. We were also joined by State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris, who said he was consulting with the governor on the possible masking extension. He contended that the mandate probably prevented a virus spike on Labor Day. And Sen. Jim McClendon of Springville was with us to talk about legislative preparations to tackle reapportionment next year.

### ***Spotlight on Education***

7/23/20, 7pm, 1 hour Issues discussed:

Alabama Superintendent of Education Dr. Eric Mackey joined us to discuss a revised plan for safely reopening state schools during the pandemic. Senate Minority Leader Bobby Singleton was with us to talk about his concerns regarding the school reopening plan. Selma City Schools Superintendent Dr. Avis Williams joined us to discuss being among the first systems to decide to operate virtually for the first quarter of the new school year. And Alabama Education Association President Sherry Tucker was with us to talk about teacher concerns over schools reopening.

### ***Alabama Gospel Roots***

7/11/20, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Gospel groups 'The Singing Ambassadors,' 'Glorified' and 'Pardoned' took the spotlight as *Alabama Gospel Roots* went on the road for a concert in Huntsville.

7/18/20, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Guests included 'Freddrick Hardy and Men of God,' 'Shortman' Hardy, Jhae Ray, 'Exodus' of Gadsden, Pastor Pistani Standfield, and Harry and Frances Lane.

7/25/20, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Guests included 'The Chozen Believers,' Dr. Reginald Calvert, Liz Hyde, and 'The LeFevre Quartet.'

8/1/20, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Guests included Cheryl McWhorter Featherstone, Alexis Hamilton, Ron Foster, 'Gold City Quartet,' Pastor Steve Green, Sonny and Ruby Young.

9/12/20, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Guests included Denita Gibbs, Elder Robert Lee and 'United,' Lance Driskell, Alvin Garrett, Maxine Howard, Henry Ford and Dr. Sandra Ford.

9/19/20, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Guests included Tina Wakefield, 'Men of Prayze,' ReJeana Leeth, Al and Passion Lewis with 'Second Chance,' Jocquette Carroll – 'The Screaming Preacher,' Pastor Chris DeGreen, Dr. Juanakee Adams.

9/26/20, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Guests included 'The Williams Brothers,' 'Resound' and Allen Pruitt Jr., 'Called II Worship,' Buddy Sumner, Rev. Lawrence Jackson, John E. Owens Jr., Cher Smoo.

### ***Alabama Public Television Presents***

8/16/20, 2pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture, education, youth

To celebrate its 200th anniversary of statehood, Alabama created a Bicentennial Park in the heart of historic Montgomery and commissioned Caleb O'Connor to design a series of sculptural works depicting the state's full history, from dinosaurs to moon rockets. ***Alabama: In the***

***Making*** follows the artist's incredible work creating these pieces that fully represent the story of Alabama.

9/10/20, 2pm, 2 hours Issues discussed: Culture, education

***Let Us Now Praise Famous Men***, an original opera by Alabama composer Joseph Landers based on the classic book by James Agee, was received with acclaim at its October 2019 debut performance as part of the Alabama Bicentennial Celebration. In this presentation, it is performed by the University of Alabama Opera Theater in collaboration with the Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra at the Moody Concert Hall on the UA campus.