

## Issues/Programs List

Date Filed: July 2, 2018

Quarter Date: 2nd Quarter 2018

Title of Program: Community News Break


Time of Airing: See Below

Duration Program: 5 minutes

Stations & Airtimes: WZZL-5:30a, WREZ-5:30a, WGKY-5:45a, WRJJ-5:30a

### Program Information

Date	Guest/Topic	Issue
04/01	James Lardner-Author	Economics
04/08	Casey Fiesler-Assistant Professor	Social Media
04/15	Andrew Bailey-Treasurer	Budgets
04/22	Emily Chatterjee-Senior Counsel	Poverty
04/29	Dr. Lynne Saddler-District Director of Health	Addiction
05/06	Valerie-Inzer-Director of Distribution	Nutrition
05/13	Paul Boyle-Senior Vice President for public policy	Economics
05/20	Ben Chandler-CEO	Healthcare
05/27	Rhonda Randall, D.O. - Senior Advisor	Health
06/03	Adam Meier-Secretary	Healthcare
06/10	Heather Clay-Director of Communications, BBB	Senior Issues
06/17	Kate McDonald-Campaign Coordinator	Nutrition
06/25	Rocky Adkins, State House Minority Leader	Government Issues

Filed by: 

Date: 7/3/18

\*See attached for more information

4/1  
**Kentucky News Connection**

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Mary Kuhlman, 1303 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE: [www.newsservice.org](http://www.newsservice.org) Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250**  
**Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**

March 30, 2018

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

## Research Suggests Congress is Doing Wall Street's Bidding

Frankfort, KY – A new report from the group Americans for Financial Reform documents continued support in Congress for measures backed by Wall Street, particularly among Republicans. Comments by report coauthor James Lardner, senior fellow at Americans for Financial Reform.

**Intro:** While much of the country has been focused on Trump Administration scandals, a new report shows Congress has been busy doing Wall Street's bidding. The sixth annual report by the group "Americans for Financial Reform" says since last year, the House Financial Services Committee has passed more than six dozen bills to loosen restrictions on the financial industry – with the support of virtually all Republicans and an occasional Democrat. Report coauthor James Lardner cites one bill signed by President Trump in October, allowing companies to force consumers who allege fraud into arbitration – and keeping them from filing a class-action lawsuit.

**Cut 72250 :14** *"The result is that, if you're cheated by your credit card company or your student lender, or what have you, they're perfectly entitled to say you're not allowed to go to court, and you're not allowed to band together with other people who've been cheated in the same way."*

**Tag:** Lardner notes that the secrecy of mandatory arbitration allowed Wells Fargo to get away with creating fake accounts for four years. He adds that the tax bill greatly benefited Wall Street. The report found all five of Kentucky's G-O-P representatives voted for 17 out of 19 anti-consumer bills supported by the financial industry. Wall Street has argued for years that Obama-era banking regulations went too far and restrict the availability of credit.

**Second Cut:** Recently, the Senate passed S-B 2115, a big financial deregulation package – one that Lardner says takes the heat off many large banks that were part of the crash of 2008.

**Cut 73250 :17** *"And it excuses banks with between \$50 billion and \$250 billion in assets from some of the sort of automatic scrutiny that big banks were supposed to get after the financial crisis, to make sure they didn't engage in dangerous, risky practices."*

**Tag:** Polls show most voters support more regulation for Wall Street. Nonetheless, the deregulation bill will now go to the U-S House, where hard-line conservatives have said it doesn't go far enough to lighten the load on banks.

\*\*\*

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

LEDE: While much of the country has been focused on the Trump administration's many scandals – a new report shows Congress has been busy doing Wall Street's bidding. Mary Schuermann explains.

**Cut 74250 1:07** *Outcue...Mary Schuermann reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Lardner at 202-466-1854. Report: <https://pnsne.ws/2GB8L0K>.

11/8

PHS

KNC → WZZL-PM

1/1

## Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Mary Kuhlman, 1303 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE: [www.newsservice.org](http://www.newsservice.org) Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250  
Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**

April 5, 2018

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

### Watching What You Tweet? Science Mining Twitter

Frankfort, KY – It seems Facebook users are learning new information daily about how their data has been used for political campaigning. But most Twitter users don't know that researchers also "mine" their tweets in the name of science. Comments from Casey Fiesler, (FEES-ler), assistant professor, Department of Information Science, University of Colorado.

**Intro:** New legal and ethical questions surrounding the business practices of Facebook seem to surface daily. But at the same time, a new survey finds most Twitter users don't realize that university researchers and others collect and analyze their "tweets" in the name of science. Casey Fiesler at the University of Colorado is coauthor of a study on how tweets are used. Of about 68 million active U-S Twitter users, Fiesler says 268 were surveyed, with an average age of 32.

**Cut 82250 :15** *"So this was a survey, and we asked people generally how they felt about this, whether they were previously aware; and one of the striking things we found was that the majority of our participants had no idea, previously, that this was a thing that could happen."*

**Tag:** Sixty-two percent of the people surveyed did not know researchers used their tweets, and 61 percent thought it would be a breach of ethics. Twitter's privacy policy states that public information can be broadly disseminated to a wide range of users, including universities.

**Second Cut:** Fiesler says there are uses for "tweeted" information in the name of science that may not be intended by people with Twitter accounts, but she doesn't think they need to stop using social media or lock up their information.

**Cut 83250 :11** *"I think that most people know intellectually that Twitter is public, and I would actually say that research is one of the less harmful things that could happen with a tweet."*

**Third Cut:** Fiesler says most survey respondents were more comfortable having a tweet they've posted analyzed along with millions of others, or quoted anonymously, rather than having tweets attributed to them when they are used. □ □

**Cut 84250 :14** *"Lots of researchers also look at things like Instagram, Yelp reviews. Anything that is just public, so that anyone on the Internet can see it, is a typical ethical heuristic, whether researchers can look at that data."*

**Tag:** The study was funded by the National Science Foundation and recommends that researchers develop ethical guidelines and standards for mining Twitter data from users.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEDE:** A new survey finds most Twitter users don't realize that university researchers and others collect and analyze their "tweets" in the name of science. Mary Schuermann has more.

**Cut 85250 :46** *Outcue...Mary Schuermann reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Fiesler at [casey.fiesler@colorado.edu](mailto:casey.fiesler@colorado.edu). Study at <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2056305118763366>.

4/13

### Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Mary Kuhlman, 1303 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE: [www.newsservice.org](http://www.newsservice.org) Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250  
Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**

April 13, 2018

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

## KY Teachers Rally Against Budget Bill Veto

Frankfort, KY – State legislators returning to Frankfort today (Friday) for the end of the session will be getting an earful from hundreds of Kentucky educators. They're asking lawmakers to protect public education in the wake of the governor's veto of a two-year budget proposal and tax overhaul. Comments from Andrew Bailey, treasurer, Jefferson County Education Association.

**Intro:** Hundreds of teachers are stepping out of the classroom today (Friday) and heading to Frankfort for the last two days of the legislative session. Dozens of Kentucky school districts are closed today, so educators can protest budget and tax bills that were vetoed earlier this week by Governor Matt Bevin. The budget bill (H-B 200) increased per-student spending, and tax increases in the revenue bill (H-B 366) staved off nearly 490-million in cuts to public education. Andrew Bailey with the Jefferson County Education Association explains teachers are also deeply troubled by a quickly-passed pension reform law, which he says reduces retirement benefits.

**Cut 93250 :12** *"I think a lot of teachers are just shaking their heads and they don't know what's next for the kids in their classroom and what's next for themselves, too. They got into this to change the world and do good for society and in exchange, are taking less pay than what they're worth."*

**Tag:** The pension bill moves new hires into a hybrid pension that requires member contributions. Bevin says it will prevent the ailing pension system from getting any worse. And in defending the vetoes, the governor said the revenue projections are questionable, and that the new taxes in the bill would not cover increased education funding.

**Second Cut:** The State Attorney General filed a lawsuit shortly after the pension bill was signed to block it from going into effect, claiming it violates a "inviolable contract" within state law. As a teacher, Bailey argues that in the end, it's about the students. He says public schools are underfunded, and children will lose out on services if lawmakers don't override the budget and revenue vetoes.

**Cut 94250 :16** *"We have kids that have trauma every single day that need extra counselors, need mental health. We have kids that go hungry every day, that need Blessings in a Backpack and other services that provide food for kids. We need family resource centers and youth service centers; we need more security in our schools. These are things that we're just not going to be able to afford."*

**Tag:** Governor Bevin has accused protesting teachers of being "selfish and willfully ill-informed," and called the leadership of Kentucky Education Association, which is heading up the protests, "absolute frauds." Today's rally comes just over a week after a similar protest brought about 12-thousand people to Frankfort.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**  
LEDE: Hundreds of teachers are stepping out of the classroom today (Friday) and heading to Frankfort for the last two days of the legislative session. The story from Mary Schuermann.  
**Cut 95250 1:01** *Outcue... Schuermann reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Bailey is at 502-485-7423. HB 200: <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/18RS/HB200.htm>. HB 366: <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/18RS/HB366.htm>. SB 151: <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/17rs/SB151.htm>.

(1/2)

**Kentucky News Connection**

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Mary Kuhlman, 1303 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE:** [www.newsservice.org](http://www.newsservice.org) **Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250**  
**Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**

April 20, 2018

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

**Minimum-Wage Report Examines Race and Gender Pay Gap**

Frankfort, KY – Raising the federal minimum wage, especially for tipped workers, would reduce poverty as well as the gender and racial pay gaps, according to a new report from the Leadership Conference Education Fund and the Georgetown Center on Poverty and Inequality. Comments by Emily Chatterjee, senior counsel with the Leadership Conference Education Fund.

**Intro:** A new report calls for raising the federal minimum wage to 15-dollars an hour to reduce poverty and promote pay equity. Kentucky is among 21 states where the minimum wage is seven-dollars-25 cents an hour. Since the current federal minimum wage went into effect nine years ago, it has lost 13 percent of its value – and the minimum federal wage for workers who get tips has stayed at two-dollars-13-cents an hour since 1991. Emily Chatterjee, senior counsel at the Leadership Conference Education Fund, says raising the wage would do more than help lift people out of poverty.

**Cut 19250 :11** *"It would address the gender pay gap because women are over-represented in this workforce. It would also help address the racial wealth gap because people of color are also over-represented here."*

**Tag:** The report – entitled "Bare Minimum: Why We Need to Raise Wages for America's Lowest-Paid Families" – includes first-hand accounts of low-wage workers struggling to make ends meet.

**Second Cut:** Chatterjee points out that people working for tips are twice as likely to live in poverty, and two-thirds of them are women. She adds that poverty isn't the only result.

**Cut 20250 :10** *"Tipped workers' livelihood shouldn't depend on whether a customer feels like being generous that day. There's a power imbalance there. In fact, a lot of tipped workers face increased levels of sexual harassment as a result of that."*

**Third Cut:** Chatterjee says the report makes a case for raising the federal minimum wage to 15-dollars as one of four steps to effectively fight poverty and wage inequality.

**Cut 21250 :11** *"We want to index it to inflation, so that the value of the minimum wage doesn't erode over time. We also want to eliminate the tip minimum wage, and we want to eliminate the sub-minimum wage that some people with disabilities are paid."*

**Tag:** Fifty-eight-million workers are paid less than 15-dollars-an-hour. That's more than half the American workforce.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP:** uses first soundbite(s)

**LEDE:** A new report calls for raising the federal minimum wage to 15-dollars an hour to reduce poverty and promote pay equity. Mary Schuermann reports.

**Cut 22250 :48** *Outcue...Mary Schuermann reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Chatterjee at 202-466-3648. Report at <https://tinyurl.com/yat6myp6>.

4/24

## Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Mary Kuhlman, 1303 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE: [www.newsservice.org](http://www.newsservice.org) Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250  
Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**

April 26, 2018

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

### Data Shows Shifting Perceptions About Addiction in Kentucky

Frankfort, KY – New data shows that attitudes toward addiction are shifting away from the century-old notion that drug use results from a lack of willpower. Seventy percent of adults in the most recent Kentucky Health Issues Poll believe addiction is a disease, which experts say helps reduce the stigma in asking for help with a substance-use disorder. Comments from Dr. Lynne Saddler, district director of health, Northern Kentucky Health Department.

**Intro:** Experts say fighting drug addiction takes more than willpower, a message that new data shows many Kentuckians understand. The latest Kentucky Health Issues poll found seven in ten adults in the state believe addiction is a disease, regardless of whether they had first-hand experience with addiction. Dr. Lynne Saddler with the Northern Kentucky Health Department is encouraged by the findings, which she says show a shift away from the misguided notion that addiction is a character flaw.

**Cut 27250 :13** *"It shows me that people are learning about substance use disorders and they are recognizing that we are dealing with a disease and we need to treat it like we treat other diseases and approach it in a similar manner."*

**Tag:** The number of drug overdose deaths in Kentucky was fifth-highest in the nation in 2016. Saddler is hopeful the findings of the poll can lessen the stigma associated with substance abuse, so the state can be more successful at addressing the problem. □ □

\*\*\*

**Second Cut:** Saddler says drug use alters brain function, causing sometimes long-lasting changes that result in harmful behavior. But she notes there has been progress in finding effective treatments that can help sustain long-term recovery.

**Cut 28250 :16** *"Just like with mental health, there are medications but there's also counseling and psychological therapy that's an important component of that. Effective treatment for substance-use disorders has to be a combination of modalities to be effective."*

**Tag:** Among poll respondents who said they believe addiction is a disease, eight in ten also felt it is both physical and psychological. And adults living in Northern areas of Kentucky were more likely to consider addiction a disease, while those in Eastern Kentucky were less likely.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEDE:** Experts say fighting drug addiction takes more than willpower, a message that new data shows many Kentuckians understand. Mary Schuermann has the story.

**Cut 29250 :49** *Outcue...Mary Schuermann reporting.*

**Note to Editors: Reach Saddler at 859-341-4264. Kentucky Health Issues Poll:**  
<https://www.interactforhealth.org/kentucky-health-issues-poll>

S16

**Kentucky News Connection**

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Mary Kuhlman, 1303 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE: [www.newsservice.org](http://www.newsservice.org) Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250**  
**Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**

May 2, 2018

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

**Report: No Kentucky County Untouched by Hunger**

Frankfort, KY – The "Map the Meal Gap 2018" report released today (5/2) shows food insecurity exists in every Kentucky county, and that about one in three hungry Kentuckians is ineligible for federal nutrition assistance. Oldham County has the lowest rate of food insecurity at 8 percent; Magoffin County has the highest at 24 percent. Comments from Valerie Inzer, director of distribution, Water into Wine Food Pantry.

**Intro:** New research shows no part of the Bluegrass State is untouched by hunger. According to the "Map the Meal Gap 2018" report, not only does food insecurity exist in every Kentucky county, 30 percent of residents who don't have enough food likely don't qualify for federal nutrition assistance. Rates range from eight percent in Oldham County to 24 percent in Magoffin County, where the Water into Wine Food Pantry is located. Director of distribution Valerie Inzer says she isn't surprised, because she sees the faces of hunger each day.

**Cut 34250 :14** *"It's real, it's here and it's not just one or two people or organizations that need to address it. We all just need to humble ourselves and think, we could be in that situation and if we was, what would we like for other people to do to help us?"*

**Tag:** The report finds 19 percent of Kentucky kids are food insecure, and in Clay, Elliott, Knott, Magoffin and Wolfe counties, it's one in three children. Food insecurity is defined as a lack of access at times to enough food for an active, healthy life.

**Second Cut:** Inzer says many food-pantry clients are employed but face challenges that make it difficult to put food on the table.

**Cut 35250 :12** *"Everybody's circumstances are different. They're not eligible for any other public assistance, yet they hardly make enough, or what extra money they do have goes to insurance because of a medical or health issue."*

**Third Cut:** Water into Wine Food Pantry is part of the Kentucky Association of Food Banks, whose members distributed 63-million meals last year across the state. And Inzer contends hungry families need more, as assistance from food pantries and soup kitchens can only go so far.

**Cut 36250 :12** *"This is only a supplemental assistance. What we give out is not made for people to live on month to month, or week to week, but to supplement what they can already supply for themselves."*

**Tag:** The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or "SNAP" serves a dozen meals for every one meal provided by Feeding America, which also partners with the Kentucky Association of Food Banks. Congress is considering further restricting SNAP eligibility as it debates the 2018 Farm Bill.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEDE:** New research shows no part of the Bluegrass State is untouched by hunger. The story from Mary Schuermann.

**Cut 37250 :54** *Outcue...Schuermann reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Inzer at 606-367-0240. The report: [map.feedingamerica.org](http://map.feedingamerica.org).

S/13

## **Kentucky News Connection**

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Mary Kuhlman, 1303 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE: [www.newsservice.org](http://www.newsservice.org) Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250  
Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**

Help Us Help You & You May Win a Smart Speaker. <https://bit.ly/mediaoutletsurvey> - DEADLINE May 11

May 10, 2018

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

### **Tariffs: A Kick in the Teeth for Rural Papers?**

Frankfort, KY - We've heard a lot of talk about the effects new tariffs on aluminum and steel might have on the U.S. economy, but one tariff that isn't getting much attention is on newsprint and how it could impact newspapers, especially those in rural communities. Comments from Paul Boyle, senior vice president for public policy, News Media Alliance.

**Intro:** Newspapers are sounding the alarm about a new tariff on newsprint that's having unexpected consequences. Following a complaint from a Washington state-based paper mill that Canadian paper producers were "dumping" product in the U-S, the Commerce Department imposed substantial new tariffs on Canadian newsprint. At the same time, the U-S doesn't have enough mills to supply newspapers and the cost of newsprint from Canada has increased 20 percent. Paul Boyle with the News Media Alliance says if the newsprint tariff isn't overturned, newspapers strapped by years of declining revenues are going to employ fewer journalists, and possibly reduce the size of local newspapers and numbers of days they publish.

**Cut 41250 :11** *"The newspaper industry is going up against really tough headwinds. We've lost more than 55 percent of our advertising revenue since 2008. These tariffs right now are a kick in the teeth."*

**Tag:** Leaders at several newspapers are encouraging members of Congress to step into the conflict. The U-S International Trade Commission has scheduled a July 17th hearing on the issue.

\*\*\*

**Second Cut:** Boyle worries that damage already is being done to ailing newspapers. He believes larger papers could survive the 20 percent tariff, but smaller daily or weekly papers in rural America would have a tougher time.

**Cut 42250 :14** *"So unfortunately, newspapers are going to have to take steps to cut costs, and that may mean less news in local communities. That will hurt small markets in rural areas in particular, that still very much rely on the printed newspaper."*

**Tag:** The newspaper industry employs 65 percent fewer Americans than it did two decades ago.

\*\*\*

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

LEDE: Newspapers are sounding the alarm about a new tariff on newsprint that's having unexpected consequences. Mary Schuermann has more.

**Cut 43250 :56** *Outcue...Schuermann reporting.*

**Note to Editors: Reach Boyle at 571-366-1150.**



S/O

### Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Mary Kuhlman, 1303 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE: [www.newsservice.org](http://www.newsservice.org) Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250  
Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**

May 16, 2018

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

## Survey Reveals Most Kentuckians Struggle to Afford Health Care

Frankfort, KY – A majority of adults in Kentucky have experienced difficulty affording health care, according to a new analysis, which also found many describe themselves as "extremely worried" about the ability to pay for medical care in the future. Comments from Ben Chandler, CEO, Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky.

**Intro:** A new survey finds the ability to pay for medical care is challenge for a majority of Kentucky adults. According to the data from Altarum's Healthcare Value Hub, nearly three in four adults in the state have been affected by a healthcare affordability problem. This includes trouble paying a medical bill, inability to afford health insurance, or delaying or skipping medical care. C-E-O of Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky Ben Chandler says not getting needed care is dangerous to residents – and costly for the Commonwealth. □□□□□

**Cut 49250 :13** *"When Kentuckians delay care, for whatever reason they do it, they're more likely to end up in an emergency room or some other place for some treatment that costs more than it would otherwise cost if they caught it at an earlier stage."*

**Tag:** The survey also revealed future medical costs are a concern among adults, with 71 percent worried about affording care when they are elderly; 69 percent worried about paying for a serious illness or accident, and 59 percent concerned about the costs of prescription medications.

\*\*\*

**Second Cut:** Chandler contends lawmakers haven't had a serious discussion about health care affordability since Obamacare, which he says was just a partial solution. He adds other comparable countries spend much less money on health care and have better outcomes. □□□□□

**Cut 50250 :12** *"When you're 37th in outcomes and you're spending twice as much as anybody else, that ought to tell you that you've got a significant problem. And we really haven't done enough on any level to deal with that problem."*

**Tag:** The survey also found that just 19 percent of adults believe the healthcare system in the U-S is "great," and 74 percent support changes to address high healthcare costs.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**  
LEDE: A new survey finds the ability to pay for medical care is challenge for a majority of Kentucky adults. Mary Schuermann has more.  
**Cut 51250 :51** *Outcue...Schuermann reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Chandler at 502-326-2583. Survey at <https://tinyurl.com/ya7u7b9p>.

plus  
S/27

### Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Mary Kuhlman, 1303 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE: [www.newsservice.org](http://www.newsservice.org) Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250  
Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**

May 23, 2018

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

## Senior Health in KY: Report Uncovers Rural-Urban Divide

Frankfort, KY – Kentucky moved up one spot in an annual report examining the health of adults ages 65-plus, but still ranks among the bottom of states at 48th. And according to the 2018 Senior Health Report, the health of older residents may be impacted by where they live. Comments from Rhonda Randall, D.O., senior adviser to the United Health Foundation and chief medical officer and executive vice president, UnitedHealthcare Retiree Solutions. □□

**Intro:** New data reveals a rural/urban divide when it comes to the health of older Kentuckians. The United Health Foundation's 2018 Senior Health Report examines 34 health indicators, and ranks Kentucky 48th among states, up one notch from last year's rankings. Rhonda Randall, with the Foundation, explains a key finding that among those aged 65-plus, rural residents are not as healthy as those who live in urban settings. □□□□

**Cut 63250 :15** *"Seniors who live in rural areas are less physically active, they are less likely to receive their health screenings or get a flu shot and they are less likely to report their own health as very good or excellent and at the same time they are at a higher risk of having a fall."*

**Tag:** Kentucky scored well in the areas of prescription drug coverage and diabetes management, and is also highlighted for its low prevalence of excessive drinking and low percentage of low-care nursing home residents. But the report shows the state is challenged by a low percentage of able-bodied seniors, and high preventable hospitalization rate.

**Second Cut:** Another area of concern, says Randall, is smoking as more than 12 percent of seniors in Kentucky continue to smoke. And besides the significant risks of cancer, heart disease and high blood pressure, she notes it also impacts financial health. □□

**Cut 64250 :12** *"Seniors are often on a fixed income so when we're spending dollars on something that harms our health it takes away the dollars that we could be spending on things like healthy food, utilities, medical bills."*

**Third Cut:** Much like the rest of the country, Kentucky is also experiencing a geriatrician shortfall and ranks 40th among states in the report. And Randall contends the state needs to find ways to attract training physicians to the field of geriatrics and then retain them in Kentucky.

**Cut 65250 :12** *"The measure here looks at geriatricians but the certainly entire geriatric workforce is important: geriatric nurse practitioners, nurses, nurses aids, pharmacists that have specialty training in the care of seniors for example."*

**Tag:** Kentucky also ranked poorly in the areas of social isolation risk factors among seniors, and frequent mental distress, which rose 15 percent.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEDE:** New data reveals a rural/urban divide when it comes to the health of older Kentuckians. Mary Schuermann has the story.

**Cut 66250 :55** *Outcue...Mary Schuermann reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Randall through Tiffany Murphy at (502) 398-7705. Report: <https://tinyurl.com/y7cmry8m>.

6/3

## **Kentucky News Connection**

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Mary Kuhlman, 1303 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE: [www.newsservice.org](http://www.newsservice.org) Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250  
Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**

May 31, 2018

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

### **New Partnership to Help Medicaid Enrollees Meet Work Requirement**

Frankfort, KY – The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky is partnering with the Bevin Administration to help Kentuckians maintain coverage under the Kentucky HEALTH Medicaid waiver demonstration program. Comments from Adam Meier (MY-er), secretary, Cabinet for Health and Family Services; Ben Chandler, president and chief executive officer, Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky.

**Intro:** An initiative was just announced to help eligible Kentuckians maintain their Medicaid coverage. The Governor's office and the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky are partnering to work with employers, providers, state leaders and other stakeholders to ensure people understand and are able to meet the requirements of the state's new Kentucky HEALTH Medicaid waiver program. Secretary for the Cabinet for Health and Family Services Adam Meier explains the goal is to promote good health and financial stability.

**Cut 70250 :11** *"It's all about aligning the resources, the policies, the active entities towards one common end and that's to get people healthier, to get them employed, to help their educational attainment and to improve their quality of life."*

**Tag:** Able-bodied, working age adults will need to participate in an employment-related activity for 80 hours per month under the new requirement, although there are some exceptions. Kentucky HEALTH was approved in January, and it will begin to be implemented around the state starting July 1st.

**Second Cut:** Ben Chandler with the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky notes the initiative will also help ensure people with substance use disorders can maintain their Medicaid coverage and get the treatment services they need.

**Cut 71250 :14** *"One of the big things that we hear all across the state is that employers have a hard time finding workers who can pass drug tests. We need to try to remedy that. We need to have a productive workforce in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. That's also important."*

**Third Cut:** Meier adds it's important that folks understand there are many ways to comply with the new waiver requirements, beyond just working. □□□□

**Cut 72250 :10** *"Work is certainly one of the ways that you can satisfy that particular component however so is job training, so is education, so is volunteering in your community. so is taking care of a family member or a child."*

**Tag:** It's estimated that 350 thousand Kentuckians will be affected by the work requirement, and Meier says it's crucial they maintain their coverage.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEDE:** A new initiative was just announced to help eligible Kentuckians maintain their Medicaid coverage. The story from Mary Schuermann.

**Cut 73250 :48** *Outcue...Mary Schuermann reports.*

**Note to Editors: Reach Meier at 502-564-7042 ; Chandler at 502-326-2583.**

C/O

## Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Mary Kuhlman, 1303 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE: [www.newsservice.org](http://www.newsservice.org) Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250  
Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**

Congratulations to survey winner Geoff Conn, KNIM-FM, Maryville, MO! You can still participate; just visit <https://bit.ly/mediaoutletsurvey>.

June 6, 2018

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

### Robocall Threatening Social Security Benefits? Don't Take the Bait

Frankfort, KY – A new robocall scam targets Kentuckians, and this time it involves Social Security benefits. Comments from Heather Clary, director of communications, Better Business Bureau serving Central and Eastern Kentucky. □□

**Intro:** If you receive a telephone message saying your Social Security benefits are at risk, consumer advocates say don't be alarmed – it's likely the newest twist on robocall scams. Heather Clary with the Better Business Bureau serving Central and Eastern Kentucky explains the caller tells potential victims there is suspicious activity involving their Social Security account, and directs them to dial a different number and then, enter their Social Security number. But she says it's just con artists trying to intimidate folks into divulging their personal information. □□□□□□

**Cut 77250 :13** *"They know that people can be easily frightened and possibly pressured to take a step that they will regret later on due to being frightened about losing various benefits. So, that's why you really need to be careful about these calls coming in and don't always assume it's the real deal."*

**Tag:** If you receive a call of this nature, or from anyone claiming to be from a government agency, she recommends calling the named agency directly to find out if there's a problem. When government entities need to contact a citizen, she explains, they typically send a letter. □□

**Second Cut:** The Federal Trade Commission has reported a significant increase in robocalls, as Web-based phone systems have made it easier for scammers to make illegal calls displaying fake caller I-D information. Clary says it's easy to spot them, as they have a recorded message and promise a reward, or threaten some sort of legal action. But again, she says, don't buy it.

**Cut 78250 :16** *"An agency is not going to call and threaten to arrest you; that just isn't how it works. If someone's arrest you for a legitimate reason they're just going to show up. People talk about lawsuits being served, warrants being served. Words like that being used on a message on the phone; you should be very suspicious."*

**Third Cut:** Clary adds it doesn't take divulging much information for someone to become a victim of fraud or identity theft. □□□□

**Cut 79250 :16** *"They can use that to open lines of credit and use it to impersonate someone else, to get jobs. These numbers are sold and bought on the black market out there. And all they need is a Social Security number and a date of birth to open many lines of credit. □□"*

**Tag:** The Federal Trade Commission has filed lawsuits against more than 600 companies and people behind billions of illegal robocalls and violations of the Do Not Call list.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEDE:** If you receive a telephone message saying your Social Security benefits are at risk, consumer advocates say don't be alarmed – it's likely the newest twist on robocall scams. Mary Schuermann has more.

**Cut 80250 :47** *Outcue...Schuermann reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Clary at 859-519-4700. Scam info at <http://www.bbb.org/scamtracker>.

6-17

## Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Mary Kuhlman, 1303 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE: [www.newsservice.org](http://www.newsservice.org) Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250  
Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**

June 13, 2018

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

### Fewer KY Kids Going Hungry During the Summer

Frankfort, KY – More children in Kentucky are getting the nutrition they need during the summer, according to a report released today (Wednesday) by the Food Research and Action Center. It shows summer meal programs in the state served 800 thousand more lunches in 2017 than in 2016. Comments from Kate McDonald, campaign coordinator, KY Kids Eat, Kentucky Association of Food Banks.

**Intro:** Hunger-fighting groups and agencies in Kentucky are making progress as they work to ensure children in the state have access to healthy, nutritious food during the summer months. A report released today (Wednesday) from Food Research & Action Center shows a 14-percent increase in lunches served in Summer Nutrition Programs in Kentucky in 2017 compared to 2016. Kate McDonald with the Kentucky Association of Food Banks' K-Y Kids Eat campaign explains while Kentucky still ranks 46th among states and D-C for summer nutrition program participation, things are looking up. □□

**Cut 84250 :13** *"Even though we're still in the top 10 lowest performing states the growth that the Department of Education and the summer sponsors have seen has been in the double digits the past three summers so things are moving in the right direction."*

**Tag:** She notes the Commonwealth's growth is not duplicated nationally, with 14 thousand fewer children across the country served summer lunch in July 2017 than in July 2016.

**Second Cut:** Free summer meals are available to all children ages 18 and under in Kentucky and McDonald says innovative ideas are helping to ensure more kids can be served.

**Cut 85250 :14** *"The sites are schools and community action centers, but also they are buses in a neighborhood or even a lot of housing complexes have little picnics outside every day. So people are really making it work and feed as many kids as possible. It's very admirable.□□"*

**Third Cut:** She notes summer meals help fill the gap for those children who rely on free school breakfast and lunch, while also offering educational and social activities. □□□□□

**Cut 86250 :14** *"There is research that shows that when kids don't have consistent access to food during the summertime they're paying for it in the classroom and the state of Kentucky is going to pay for it down the road if we're not taking care of the future leaders of Kentucky."*

**Tag:** The report shows that still just one-in-12 Kentucky kids who eat free lunch during the school year have access to a free summer meal. □□

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEDE:** Hunger-fighting groups and agencies in Kentucky are making progress as they work to ensure children in the state have access to healthy, nutritious food during the summer months. Mary Schuermann explains.

**Cut 87250 :47** *Outcue...Mary Schuermann reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach McDonald at 859-797-5442. The report: [frac.org](http://frac.org).

**Kentucky News Connection**

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Mary Kuhlman, 1303 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE: www.newsservice.org Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250**  
**Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**

June 21, 2018

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

**Appeal Expected of Nixed KY Pension Reform Law**

Frankfort, KY – The pension-reform law passed by Kentucky lawmakers was ruled unconstitutional by a Franklin County Circuit Court judge on Wednesday. While opponents argue it's the right move, the governor's office says an appeal is imminent. Comments from state House Minority Leader Rocky Adkins, D-Sandy Hook.

**Intro:** Governor Matt Bevin is expected to appeal Wednesday's ruling that nixes the pension reform law passed this year. A Franklin Circuit Court judge said the process to pass Senate Bill 151 was unconstitutional, calling it a "legislative sleight of hand." House Minority Leader Rocky Adkins explains the legislation started as an 11-page sewer bill that morphed into a nearly 300-page pension reform bill.

**Cut 11250 :16** *"The bill was introduced on one afternoon and passed through the House and the Senate and on the governor's desk in less than six hours. The bill did not have the proper readings or the proper debate. The bill did not have an actuarial analysis, which the statute requires. □□□□"*

**Tag:** A statement from the governor's office said the judge invalidated the bill based on procedural argument and failed to consider whether or not it violated the inviolable contract with teachers and other public workers. The statement also noted hundreds of bills have passed the General Assembly using the same process. An appeal to the Kentucky Supreme Court is expected.

\*\*\*

**Second Cut:** The new law would have put newly hired teachers into a hybrid plan similar to a 401-K, and increase the age for retirement. It also raises health-care costs for some state workers. Bevin claims it would fully fund pensions and prevent the plans from becoming insolvent. But Adkins and other opponents say the state is back to fully funding the ARC (actuarial required contribution), and says returns for state retirement systems are growing due to their investments. □□

**Cut 12250 :12** *"The retirement systems are back on track. The reforms we made in '13 are working very well. The bill that was passed would have cost the taxpayers more money and would have had no impact on the unfunded liability."*

**Tag** Republicans said they are confident Wednesday's ruling will be overturned on appeal, and called the lawsuit brought about by Democratic Attorney General Andy Beshear "politically motivated." □□

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

LEDE: Governor Matt Bevin is expected to appeal Wednesday's ruling that nixes the pension reform law passed this year. Mary Schuermann has more.

**Cut 13250 :52** *Outcue...Mary Schuermann reporting.*

**Note to Editors: Reach Adkins at 502-564-5565.**