

Issues/Programs List

Date Filed: *1/8/13*
 Quarter Date: *4th Qtr. 2012*
 Title of Program: Info Track
 Time of Airing: See Below
 Duration Program: 25 minutes
 Stations & Airtime: *WRGZ 5A*

Program Information

Date	Guest/Topic	Issue
10/7	Robert Cantu, Dana Gunders, Roger Leslie	Personal Health, Hunger, Youth
10/14	Jonah Engle, Alex Montagu, Jennifer Grasz	Drugs, Legal Issues, Workplace
10/21 10/29	Niobe Way, Jennifer Amann, Charles Wilson, Carl Horn, Gary Rivlin, Dana Edelson	Parenting, Environment, Workplace, Unemployment, Poverty, Personal Health
11/14	Pamela Hyde, Janet Tomiyama, Brain Fikkert	Parenting, Women's Issues, Homelessness
11/11	Joshua Lyon, Thomas Talavage, Susan Carpenter	Substance Abuse, Mental Health, Environment
11/18	Michael Oswald, Dr. Glantz, Roxana Soto	National Park, Public Health, Language
11/25	Lee Crockett, Randall Pinkett, Peter Polos	Education, Minority Concerns, Youth Issues
12/2	Andrew Biggs, Nancy Salamone, Maggie Cary	Government Policies, Personal Finances, Education
12/9	Robert Darbelnet, Ginny Clarke, Laura Petracek	Energy, Employment, Mental Health
12/16	Jennifer Aaker, Jodi Sleeper, Erick Schreder	Volunteering, ADHD, Environment
12/23	Ed Conley, Doug Thorburn, Robert Kotler	Personal Health, Drunk Driving, Aging
12/30	Ruby Asugha, Bobby Covic, Shelly Herold	Education, Consumer Issues, Education

Filed by: *[Signature]*

Date: *1/8/13*

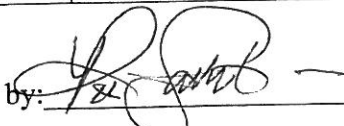
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Filed by: _____



Date: _____

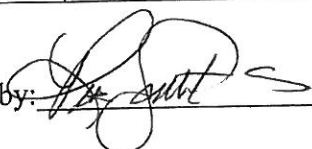
1/8/13

Issues/Programs List

Date Filed: 1/8/13
 Quarter Date: 4th Qtr. 2012
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 Duration Program: 25 minutes
 Stations & Airtime: WCKY 10-AM

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Filed by: 

Date: 1/8/13

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Date Filed: 1/8/13
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Date	Time	Duration	Title	Issue	Station
10/7	5:30A	2 min.	Kentucky Connection see attached	Kids Health	W224/WRF2
10/14				Political	
10/22				Clean Water	
10/28				Economy	
11/4				Voting	
11/11				Environment	
11/18				Prison cost	
11/25				Holiday giving	
12/2				Medicare	
12/6				Public Health	
12/14				Economy	
12/23				Child Health	
12/30				Taxes	

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1/4				Voting	
1/11				Environment	
1/18				Prison cost	
1/25				Holiday giving	
2/2				Medicare	
1/6				Public Health	
1/14				Economy	
1/23				Child Health	
1/30				TAXES	

Prepared by: _____

Date: _____

Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Tom Joseph, 1309 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

Rec'd Oct 7, 2012

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

October 4, 2012

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

Improving Kids' Health Could Pay Off for KY Communities

Frankfort, KY – The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky is looking for communities that may be eligible for grant money by offering innovative ways to protect school-aged kids from chronic diseases. Comments from F-H-K CEO and president, Susan Zepeda. Image available: Children on playground.

Intro: There may be grant money available for communities in Kentucky committed to changing children's health for the better over the next five years. Susan Zepeda, CEO and president of the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky, says her group is offering three million dollars worth of grants to as many as ten communities that have innovative ideas to help kids.

Cut 35250 :14 *"Very specifically, kids five to eighteen, launching them on a career of healthy behaviors and a healthy environment that will reduce their risk of chronic disease down the road."*

Tag: Zepeda says the initiatives could include things like better access to medical checkups, nutrition programs, and safer places for kids to play. She says interested parties can submit a letter of intent by November 16. Those selected to submit a full proposal have until February to make their plans known.

Second Cut: Zepeda says Kentucky has a unique landscape in terms of chronic disease, making the mission that much more important.

Cut 36250 :15 *"Kentucky is troubled by higher rates of heart disease and cancer and diabetes, and we believe very strongly that problems like that start in your home town, and the solutions are probably there in your community as well."*

Third Cut: Zepeda says they're giving applicants a fair amount of leeway in what they bring to the table, because some of the best ideas may come from paths less traveled.

Cut 37250 :14 *"One size doesn't fit all. There are many experiences in Kentucky, there are many varied communities with different strengths and different challenges and who knows that better than the people who live in those communities?"*

OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)

LEAD: There may be grant money available for communities in Kentucky committed to change children's health for the better over the next five years. Tom Joseph reports.

Cut 38250 :40 *Outcue...I'm Tom Joseph reporting.*

Note to Editors: Reach Zepeda at 502-326-2583.

Play 10-19-2012

Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Tom Joseph, 1309 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
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October 11, 2012

Available files: mp3 wav

AARP: You've Earned a Say in VP Debate in Kentucky

Danville, KY – As the vice presidential candidates get set to square off in Kentucky in their only televised debate, seniors are hoping to hear about issues that ultimately matter to all generations; Social Security and Medicare. Comments from AARP KY Executive Council member, Charlotte Whitaker; and AARP state president, Jim Kimbrough [KIM-bro].

Intro: As the eyes of the nation turn to Kentucky tonight to watch the only televised vice presidential debate, seniors are hoping Social Security and Medicare play a central role in the discussion. Charlotte Whitaker, a member of the AARP Kentucky Executive Council, says there's too much riding on both programs not to elevate the discussion.

Cut 47250 :09 *"This is huge, especially for Kentucky. You know, we have to hear from these candidates exactly what their plans are, and we have not heard this yet."*

Tag: Some think Vice President Biden may go on the offensive in the exchange, considering the mixed reviews President Obama got in the presidential debate, and that may lead to pointed talk on what the Republican hopefuls have in mind for the programs. The vice presidential debate takes place at 9 pm from the campus of Centre College in Danville, and will be carried live by major TV networks

Second Cut: AARP is a sponsor of the debates and has held a number of informational events on the Centre College campus in recent weeks. AARP state president, James Kimbrough, says by ignoring issues like Medicare and Social Security in these debates, the candidates are turning their backs on a huge number of voters.

Cut 48250 :20 *"Our 37 million members across the country, and we've got 460 thousand in Kentucky, we're pretty well focused on hearing the candidates talk about what they see as important in American politics and American issues."*

Third Cut: Charlotte Whitaker says the perception that Social Security and Medicare are issues important only to seniors, is a misread on the big picture.

Cut 49250 :16 *"We want to know what's down the road for us, but as well, we want to know what's for our children and our grandchildren. We have a son, 42, and what will there be for him in a few years when he chooses to retire?"*

OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)

LEAD: As the eyes of the nation turn to Kentucky tonight to watch the only televised vice presidential debate, seniors are hoping Social Security and Medicare play a central role in the discussion. Tom Joseph reports.

Cut 50250 :37 *Outcue...I'm Tom Joseph reporting.*

Note to Editors: Contact Whitaker and Kimbrough at 1-866-295-7275.

Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Tom Joseph, 1309 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830 E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

Played on 10-21-2012

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

October 18, 2012

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

Thursday Event in Kentucky Marks 40th Anniversary of Clean Water Act

Murray, KY – The 40th anniversary of passage of the Clean Water Act is marked in Kentucky tonight [Thursday] with an 'all things water' education event. Comments from Dianna Riddick, chair of the Kentucky Sierra Club's Great Rivers Group. Image available: Cumberland Falls Kentucky.

Intro: The water you drink and use in Kentucky today is cleaner than it was four decades ago. It's been forty years since the national Clean Water Act was passed, and an event happening tonight [Thursday] marks the occasion. It's being put together by the Kentucky Sierra Club's Great Rivers Group and the Murray Environmental Student Society at Murray State University. Organizer Dianna Riddick says there will be discussions with experts on how far water quality has come in Kentucky, and the work ahead.

Cut 59250 :15 *"We have fertilizer that goes into bodies of water, which means low oxygen, which means certain fish die. We have issues with pharmaceuticals in municipal drinking water that looks like it's probably going to lead the E.P.A. into some further regulation to protect us."*

Tag: Riddick says the event will feature speakers addressing drinking water, soil conservation, watersheds and the barge industry among others. It starts at 6:30 p.m. in the school's Chemistry Hall auditorium.

Second Cut: Riddick says the Clean Water Act rescued Kentucky waterways from surreal circumstances taking place back in the late '60s, early '70s.

Cut 60250 :15 *"Lots of toxic metals and fish bodies, open sewage, the Cuyahoga River covered with oil and catching on fire and burning down two bridges...I think that's the penultimate pre-Clean Water Act situation."*

Third Cut: Riddick hopes to see a ripple effect from the forum. □ □

Cut 61250 :10 *"To be able to have people motivated to be more aware of their water situation. We do believe that it may be one of the issues that in the next twenty or thirty years is going to become extremely front and center."*

OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)

LEAD: The water you drink and use in Kentucky today is cleaner than it was four decades ago. It's been forty years since the national Clean Water Act was passed, and an event happening tonight [Thursday] marks the occasion. Tom Joseph reports.

Cut 62250 :41 *Outcue...I'm Tom Joseph reporting.*

Note to Editors: Contact Riddick at (859) 296-4335.

Wired 10-28-2012

Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Tom Joseph, 1309 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
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October 22, 2012

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

An Ounce Of Financial Prevention

New Research on Decision Making Offers Hope for Struggling Families

Frankfort, KY – New research is suggesting how families that seem to be trapped in constant financial crises can learn to get better control of their situations. Comments from Syble (SYBIL) Solomon, educator on the psychology of money. **IMAGE AVAILABLE: Photo of Solomon.**

Intro: New research is helping families break the cycle of constant financial crises, and it doesn't cost much to do it. According to financial educator Syble (SYBIL) Solomon, the key findings confirm that people make mistakes when they're under stress. She says this helps explain why people make the same errors over and over again – because each problem makes the next one hard to deal with. She says the good news is that if families on the edge can save something and get even a little ahead, they can learn to be in better control.

Cut 63250 :13 *"That twenty-five, fifty dollars soon becomes a hundred dollars, two hundred dollars. And if that's left as untouchable, then when there is an emergency they're actually able to handle it and every emergency doesn't become a crisis."*

Tag: Solomon says behavioral economists are studying people's decision making, and using new information about how the brain works. She says they're finding that if people are under enough pressure, their habits and emotions will tend to override their logic.

Second Cut: Solomon says people at all income levels make financial decisions based on things such as status and the desire to be well liked - instead of, say, a budget. She says for families on the financial edge, it can be especially hard.

Cut 64250 :12 *"When people are stressed about money, they make bad choices, and when people have very little money, they frequently feel they don't have any control. And therefore they make decisions that, in the long run, are not in their best interests."*

Third Cut: The good news, she says, is that people can learn to make better decisions and don't need much to feel in control of their financial lives. She says simple mental tricks can help.

Cut 65250 :11 *"H is hungry, A is angry, L is lonely, and T is tired. And when people are hungry, angry, lonely or tired, you want to get them in the habit of saying, 'Halt!'"*

OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses the first soundbite(s)

LEAD: New research is helping families break the cycle of constant financial crises, and it doesn't cost much to do it. Tom Joseph reports.

Cut 66250 :46 *Outcue...I'm Tom Joseph reporting.*

Note to Editors: Solomon can be reached at 910-399-2200.

played
11-4-2012

Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Greg Stotelmyer, 1309 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**

November 1, 2012

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

"Vote for Kids" on Election Day in Kentucky

Louisville, KY - "Vote for kids" is the message to Kentuckians as they prepare to head to the polls Tuesday (Nov. 6). Terry Brooks, executive director of Kentucky Youth Advocates, says there are a number of issues at the state and federal levels that will have a great impact on our children. Image available: Photo of a child.

Intro: Kentucky's chief election official is predicting a record number of Kentuckians will go to the polls on Election Day (Nov. 6). While the race for the White House is credited with driving the turnout, a child advocacy group in the state wants you to "vote for kids." Terry Brooks, who heads the Kentucky Youth Advocates, says even though kids aren't running for office - a variety of issues impacting them will be confronted on Capitol Hill, and the election will determine the direction of the debate. Especially on health care reform. □ □

Cut 77250 :17 *"Whether that's the Affordable Care Act, or whether that's under a President Romney that is as the details of health care get hammered out, there's not a segment of the population, in the whole country, that has more to win than children. □ □ □"*

Tag: Yet, it's the grass-roots, the races for the statehouse, where Brooks believes voting for kids could have the most impact.

Second Cut: Brooks says state lawmakers deal with issues such as child protection and juvenile justice. □ □

Cut 78250 :11 *"It is absolutely essential for Kentucky's kids that voters know where the candidates stand on some key issues that Kentucky's children confront right now. □ □ □ □"*

Tag: After all, Brooks says our kids can't vote or contribute to campaigns - even though there is so much at stake for them this election.

Third Cut: Brooks says "vote for kids" because they don't have a voice in elections.

Cut 79250 :13 *"Kids don't have super PACs, kids don't vote themselves, so they've got to depend upon the citizens of Kentucky to remember their interests when they're casting their votes at the federal, the state and the local level."*

OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)
LEAD: Kentucky's chief election official is predicting a record number of Kentuckians will go to the polls this coming Tuesday. While the race for the White House is driving the turnout a child advocacy group in the state wants you to "vote for kids." Greg Stotelmyer has more.
Cut 80250 :42 *Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting*

Note to Editors: Reach Terry Brooks 1-502-895-8167.

Played
11-11-2012

Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Greg Stotelmyer , 1309 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
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November 8, 2012

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

New Power Push for Health and Environment in KY

Georgetown, KY - In the aftermath of the election, a grassroots community organization in Kentucky says it is now hoping for more progress on environmental protection and health care. Comments from Rosanne Fitts Klarer, one of the members of Kentuckians for the Commonwealth. Image available: Photo of "I voted" sticker.□□□□

Intro: Election results are taken as new marching orders by Kentuckians for the Commonwealth and they plan to ratchet up their focus on health care and the environment, specifically a shift towards more clean energy production. Rosanne Fitts Klarer knows it can be a tough sell in the heart of coal country, but she says voters have sent a clear message.

Cut 85250 :08 *"That many people want to see us transition to cleaner energy and not just be stuck in one type of energy."*

Tag: She helped lead KFTC's voter empowerment efforts.

Second Cut: She says nearly five thousand voters were registered leading up to the election.

Cut 86250 :09 *"It actually, in my opinion, counteracts the negative ads and the cynicism that's out there."*

Tag: KFTC also used voter guides and made calls to people urging them to vote.

OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses 1 soundbite(s)
LEAD: Election results are taken as new marching orders by Kentuckians for the Commonwealth and they plan to ratchet up their focus on health care and the environment, specifically a shift towards more clean energy production. Greg Stotelmyer has more.
Cut 87250 :23 *Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting.*

Note to Editors: Reach Rosanne Fitts Klarer 859-608-9116

Play Nov 18, 2012

Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

Producer: Greg Stotelmyer, 1309 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**

November 16, 2012

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

Groups to FCC: Hang Up on High Prison Phone Rates

Washington, D.C. – Families of prison inmates, along with prison chaplains and advocates rallied at the offices of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), calling for reform of what they say are exorbitant rates charged on calls to prison inmates in many states. Comments from Keith DiBlasio (dec-BLAZE-ee-oh), executive director, AdvoCare, Inc.; Amalia Deloney (uh-MAHL-yuh dih-LOAN-ee), associate director, Center for Media Justice. Image available: Cell phone □ □

Intro: They say phone calls from prison to home can cost up to 24 times a normal call. And after over ten years of trying to get the government – specifically the FCC – to do something about it, advocates are stepping up the pressure. Petitions with over 40-thousand signatures urge action on the issue. Families of prisoners and prison chaplains rallied at the offices of the FCC Thursday. Advocate Keith DiBlasio, a former inmate, assails the high rates that result from phone company contracts that involve commissions being paid to the local or state governments.

Cut 15250 :07 *"I come from a fiscally conservative background, so I look at this as being an unlawful, unauthorized tax."*

Tag: He says in some states, the rates can range from a seven dollar local call to a 15-minute long distance call for thirty-plus dollars. He says that works a hardship on many families who are in the worst position to bear it, those with a loved one locked up.

Second Cut: DiBlasio says studies show maintaining strong family ties plays a key role in keeping recidivism down.

Cut 16250 :10 *"When we're talking about keeping people connected and getting them on the right path to come out better than how they went in, that's an important issue of keeping families connected with the re-entry."*

Third Cut: Amalia Deloney of the Center for Media Justice says advocates have been working for a dozen years on behalf of Martha Wright, a grandmother of a former prison inmate, who is petitioning the FCC to reform prison phone costs. She says they're getting closer to closure.

Cut 17250 :13 *"We definitely are gaining traction. I mean both in terms of attention and but also strategy – and just sort of closing all the loopholes. It's pretty clear that everybody is saying the same thing – the time is now, it's time for the FCC to act."*

Tag: The Center for Media Justice says more than 2.7 million children in the U-S have a parent in prison, and phone calls are important in providing comfort and a sense of normalcy. □ □

OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses 1st soundbite(s)

LEAD: People "hung up" on an issue affecting many American families rallied outside the headquarters of the FCC. As Greg Stotelmyer reports, they are protesting exorbitant rates for phone calls to and from incarcerated family members.

Cut 18250 :52 *Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting*

Note to Editors: DiBlasio can be reached at (804) 677-8421. Deloney at (612) 306-0799.

Kentucky News Connection

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Played
V-25-2012

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November 21, 2012

Available files: mp3 wav png

for Holiday Giving

Lexington, KY - Thanksgiving is followed by Black Friday and Cyber Monday, kicking off the holiday shopping season. A new movement is using Twitter to promote charitable giving. It's called #GivingTuesday and Kentucky's philanthropic community is on board. Comments from Jenny Recktenwald, Volunteers of America of Kentucky; and Aaron Sherinian of the UN Foundation. Image available: Graphic of #GivingTuesday 'badge.'

Intro: It's a nationwide social media movement that began just a few weeks ago with a simple observation. Americans go wild for two days of holiday bargains – so why not a day of giving, too? Black Friday and Cyber Monday may not take a backseat, but the holiday shopping days will now have to share with "Hashtag Giving Tuesday." Using social media like Twitter, organizers have set this coming Tuesday (November 27) as the day to donate money and services, or volunteer your time, to charities. Jenny Recktenwald says Volunteers of America of Kentucky has signed on as a partner.

Cut 26250 :06 *"We see it as an ideal way for us to connect with people who are community-minded and looking for ways to give back."*

Tag: Recktenwald says V-O-A of Kentucky is encouraging its followers to post photos of how they are giving back on its social media sites. Its organizers say more than a thousand groups have joined up to promote the concept. Having seen Black Friday take hold over a period spanning a generation or more and Cyber Monday take off swiftly, they are expecting the social media age to make Hashtag Giving Tuesday a virtual overnight success.

Second Cut: Aaron Sherinian of the U-N Foundation says his group was among the first to partner with the movement. He says it makes sense. □ □

Cut 27250 :06 *"This is a country of generous people so generosity is in our heart – why shouldn't it be on the calendar?"*

Third Cut: Sherinian is expecting Hashtag Giving Tuesday to "go viral."

Cut 28250 :12 *"We give really well. We mobilize very well. So, let's use a social media reality and let's help make sure it's on the minds and the tongues – and probably more importantly, in the Tweets and on the keyboards – of everyone we know. □ □"*

OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)

LEAD: It's a nationwide social media movement that began just a few weeks ago with a simple observation. Americans go crazy for two days of holiday bargains – so why not a day of giving too? Greg Stotelmyer "gives" us more.

Cut 29250 :43 *Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting*

Note to Editors: Reach Sherinian through Amy Freeland at (303) 882-6464; and Recktenwald at (502) 994-9167.

Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

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E-mail: knc@newsservice.org

Played 12-2-2012

**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE: www.newsservice.org Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250
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November 29, 2012

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

Window for Medicare Open Enrollment Closes Soon

Lexington, KY - Time is ticking for seniors and persons with disabilities to enroll or switch Medicare plans. The deadline is December 7. Comments from Angela Zeek, a paralegal with Legal Aid of the Bluegrass. Image available: Photo of medications.

Intro: A week from Friday (December 7), is the deadline for enrolling or switching Medicare plans. Those who help seniors and persons with disabilities wade through their options say they are fielding plenty of questions. Angela Zeek is on the front-line when it comes to helping people compare their Medicare options. She is a paralegal with Legal Aid of the Bluegrass.

Cut 37250 :11 *"These plans change, the premiums change, deductibles change, the formularies change. You know, it's a hard concept to understand if you've been on Medicare for a while."*

Tag: Zeek says most of the calls are about Medicare Advantage Plans.

Second Cut: Most, but not all of those plans, offer both health and prescription drug benefits.

Cut 38250 :10 *"These plans have become popular over the last few years because they may offer some additional benefits that they would not receive under original Medicare."*

Tag: Zeek says inquiries about the various plans increased after Medicare sent out thousands of letters explaining that certain plans were rated as low-performers. There's also Medicare Part D, which offers stand-alone drug benefits. More than 40 million people with Medicare, including two-thirds of Kentucky's seniors (63 percent) use that coverage. Zeek says it's helped "improve the quality of life" for many seniors by increasing access to the medications they need.

OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)

LEAD: A week from Friday (December 7) is the deadline for enrolling or switching Medicare plans. Those who help seniors and persons with disabilities wade through their options say they are fielding plenty of questions. Greg Stotelmyer has more.

Cut 39250 :31 *Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting*

Note to Editors: Reach Zeek at 859-388-9296

Kentucky News Connection

Played 12-6-2012

A statewide news service for Kentucky

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December 5, 2012

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The Heat is On

Frankfort, KY - The agency which oversees the Low Income Federal Home Energy Assistance Program in Kentucky is pushing an ounce of prevention. Commonly known as LIHEAP, the subsidy is viewed as the best monetary medicine for helping a family avoid having its heat shut off. Comments from Mike Moynahan (Mon-uh-han), Energy Programs Director with Kentucky Community Action. Image available: Electric meter.

Intro: The frost on the ground many of these late fall mornings is a chilly reminder that the dead of winter isn't far away in Kentucky. Neither is the deadline for low-income families to apply for help with their heating bills. Mike Moynahan, who oversees the federal program, says the deadline for applying for the one-time subsidy is December 14th.

Cut 49250 :11 "The main driver of the subsidy program is to try to prevent that disconnect situation where you're in a crisis situation facing - either you are going to be disconnected or you have been disconnected."

Tag: Commonly known as LIHEAP, the program provides a family from 100 to 300 dollars, depending on their heating source and income level.

Second Cut: To be eligible you have to be at 130 percent of the federal poverty level or below.

Cut 50250 :07 "Which roughly for a family of four is about \$2,500 of your gross monthly income before taxes."

Tag 1: Last winter, the program funneled 45 million dollars in heating assistance to 141 thousand Kentucky families.

Third Cut: But, Moynahan says as many as 75 percent of the families who are eligible are not being reached.

Cut 51250 :07 "I think it's just making the program more well known. We try to do as much as we can as far as outreach."

Tag 2: To see if you are eligible for LIHEAP you can go to any Community Action office in Kentucky or call 1-800-456-3452.

Kentucky News Connection

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December 13, 2012

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Seniors on Edge Over the 'Fiscal Cliff'

Louisville, KY - There is "anxiety among older Kentuckians" about the impact of the "fiscal cliff," according to the top volunteer with a leading seniors group in the state. In particular, the ripple effects to Medicare, the government health-insurance program more than a half million Kentucky seniors depend on. Comments from Jim Kimbrough, AARP Kentucky State President.

Intro: As the country inches closer to the "fiscal cliff," there's growing anxiety among older Kentuckians, according to a seniors leader. Jim Kimbrough is Kentucky A-A-R-P President. With the December 31st deadline nearing, he says the "what ifs" amplify. For example, what if the age requirement for Medicare is pushed from 65 to 67?

Cut 66250 :13 *"There are a lot of folks who are currently working at significantly intensive labor jobs who may not physically be able to hang on for just two more years."*

Tag: A-A-R-P opposes changing the eligibility age for Medicare. The government program helps more than a half million Kentuckians (560,000) with their health care.

Second Cut: If the nation goes over the fiscal cliff, it will trigger massive budget cuts and tax increases. Kimbrough says another concern is the idea of changing how cost-of-living increases are calculated for a variety of benefits, including Social Security and those for veterans. Kimbrough says that would hurt those living on fixed incomes.

Cut 67250 :06 *"The net practical effect of it is we'll have lower monthly retirement checks."*

Tag 1: A report from the Kaiser Family Foundation claims reducing the cost-of-living rate for Social Security benefits would take more than \$1.7 billion out of the pockets of Kentuckians over the next ten years. The average Social Security benefit in Kentucky is 13-thousand-2-hundred dollars. According to A-A-R-P, that covers two-thirds of a typical older person's income, lifting many of them out of poverty. To see the pros and cons of various proposals, Kimbrough suggests a website created by A-A-R-P. It is EarnedaSay-dot-org.

OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses 1st soundbite(s)

LEAD: As the nation inches closer to the "fiscal cliff," there's growing anxiety among older Kentuckians, according to a seniors leader. Greg Stotelmyer has more.

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A statewide news service for Kentucky

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December 21, 2012

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Attorney: Uranium and Explosives on "Most Dangerous Toys" List

Louisville, KY – Uranium, asbestos, lead and a chemical combination that results in a flame similar to a blowtorch. Those are examples on a new list of the "10 Most Dangerous Toys of All Time" from the American Association for Justice. Many of today's dangers aren't so obvious, according to trial lawyer Rob Shively (SHIVE-lee).

Intro: A blowtorch, asbestos and uranium. Children's toys with those features or ingredients are on a new list of the "10 Most Dangerous Toys of All Time" from the American Association for Justice. The report notes that the Consumer Product Safety Commission recalls millions of toys each year because of health hazards, and the agency is stretched too thin to catch everything. Trial attorney Rob Shively says dangers today are not as obvious.

Cut 85250 :11 *"In fact, it probably happens with as much or more frequency than before because so many of the components of those toys are manufactured overseas. Where, guess what? There just aren't oversight and regulations."*

Tag: A Cabbage Patch "chewing" doll that munched on children's hair and fingers is on the list, as well as an atomic-energy lab that contained radioactive materials, and the well-known lawn darts.

Second Cut: Shively says while some of the toys on the list are from days gone by, there are newer examples.

Cut 86250 :08 *"The CSI lab that had asbestos in it is a great example. I think we maybe even have some new hazards in these stronger rare-earth magnets."*

Tag: Those magnets were in Magnetix building sets – and they fell out of the plastic pieces, leading to the death of one child who swallowed several of the magnets, and injuries to dozens of other children. The toy is still available today under a new name: MagNext, and a promise that the magnets don't dislodge from the pieces.

OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)

LEAD: A blowtorch, asbestos and uranium. Children's toys with those features or ingredients are on a new list of the "10 Most Dangerous Toys of All Time" from the American Association for Justice. Greg Stotelmyer report.

Cut 87250 :38 *Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting.*

Note to Editors: The complete list is at <http://takejusticeback.com/node/75>. Rob Shively is at 307-251-1319.

Kentucky News Connection

A statewide news service for Kentucky

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December 27, 2012

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A Tax Credit for Kentucky's Lower-Income Workers?

Frankfort, KY - A tax credit for low-income workers has made the list of suggestions sent to Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear on how to modernize the state's aging tax code. Proponents of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) say it is one of the best ways to help lift people out of poverty. Comments from Molly Tevis-Orona (Tev-iss like Kevin - uh RO nuh), a federal EITC recipient; and Terry Brooks, executive director, Kentucky Youth Advocates.

Intro: A tax credit for the working poor was heavily debated this year, but survived to make the list of proposed state tax code changes sent to the governor by his blue-ribbon commission. A state Earned Income Tax Credit is seen by proponents as one of the best tools to help working families climb out of poverty. Molly Tevis-Orona, who lives in Jeffersontown, says her family uses a similar, federal tax credit to pay their car and homeowners' insurance.

Cut 11250 :10 "We cannot get to work unless we pay our car insurance, because you cannot drive without car insurance – and most of the time, we just have enough money to make ends meet."

Tag: She says her family of three, living on an annual income of 24-thousand dollars, has used the federal Earned Income Tax Credit the last four years.

Second Cut: Half of the states (25 and the District of Columbia) offer their own versions of the Earned Income Tax Credit. Terry Brooks, who heads Kentucky Youth Advocates, says it would be a good way to jump-start broader tax reform in the state.

Cut 12250 :08 "If that works at the federal level, what we really want is to double down. We want that same level of commitment at the state level."

Tag 2: The governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Tax Reform recommended a credit that would be 15 percent of the federal credit. Kentucky Youth Advocates estimates the price tag to the state at 114-million dollars.

Third Cut: Tevis-Orona says she and others who receive tax credit money pump it right back into the economy.

Cut 13250 :13 "We're not using it on anything frivolous, I'll tell you that right now. And actually studies show that most recipients of the Earned Income Tax Credit use it to either further their schooling or pay for some life bill."