

## **WYZZ QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS REPORT** **[October - December 2012]**

WYZZ'S programs, news reports and public services announcements provided significant treatment of the following issues that were important to the community in the 4th quarter of 2012:

### **October 2012**

#### **Government**

**10.30** The race for the 13th congressional district is one of the most expensive in the country. The total spent on this campaign is close to 8 million dollars so far. That includes the campaigns...and a lot of interest groups throwing money into this. The thought process: dollars spent equal voters at the polls.

**10.25** Republican incumbent bobby schilling and democratic challenger Cheri Bustos faced off in a televised debate. The debate touched on topics such as budget issues, job creation and Medicare reform. Bustos says she will work to include electronic health records and coordinate care for those who need. Schilling wants to give people fifty five and younger the option of a different health provider. Both candidates are from the quad cities area and discussed how they would handle the size of the newly redrawn district.

**10.22** Congressman Jesse Jackson, Junior, is headed back to the Mayo Clinic. Reverend Jesse Jackson says his son is headed there this week for an evaluation and that his son is in a "wrestling match with this emotional state that he is in." The reverend says his son wants to return to work, but the congressman has been absent from congress since he was diagnosed with bi-polar disorder and depression in June. He is seeking re-election this November.

#### **Environment**

**10.18** Students at Illinois Central College are taking action for the environment. They're planting trees on the East Peoria campus. The environmental biology class will plant more than a couple dozen trees this fall.

**10.16** A new "green" machine is helping big yellow protect the environment. Today, Caterpillar introduced its first ever hybrid excavator to employees at its Mossville plant. Also known as a "digger" the new machine uses twenty five percent less diesel compared to current excavators on the market. Cat says better fuel economy lowers customer operating costs. Turns out the money saved on gas will allow companies to pay for the machine in one year's time.

**10.5** The Powerton plant in Pekin is being accused of coal ash pollution. It's one of four Midwest Generation plants that the Sierra Club and other environmental groups have filed complaints against. Powerton uses ash ponds to hold what's left over from burning coal. The complaint says there are high levels of arsenic, lead and other heavy metals in the groundwater at Powerton. One Sierra Club member says it's harmful to the people living around that area.

#### **Economy**

**10.26** The U.S. economy grew at a slightly faster 2 percent rate from July through September. Both consumers and the federal government spent more. But analysts say the economy is still not growing fast enough to significantly reduce the unemployment rate. Today's report is the last look at economic growth before Americans choose a president in 11 days.

**10.10** Governor Pat Quinn's plan to shut down some Illinois prisons hits another roadblock. A judge Thursday issued an injunction that prevents the governor from closing the facilities. The governor wants to close the prisons - including the Dwight Correctional Center - to save money. But state employee union AFSCME is suing. It says the move would put too much stress on an already overcrowded state prison system. Quinn could appeal the judge's decision - or he could wait for the Illinois General Assembly to take action. Dwight's mayor says the closure would cripple the town's economy.

**10.3** The economy is taking its toll on baby making. The number of births in the U.S. is down for a fourth year in a row. Experts say the weak economy is discouraging people from having children. But the decline has slowed down over the last year, which may be an early sign of economic recovery.

### **Education**

**10.30** Law enforcement officials in LaSalle have a message for Springfield. They want funding restored for early education programs like pre-school. It's been getting cut by millions of dollars the past few years. But law enforcement officials say that's a mistake. They believe supporting pre-school leads to lower crime rates and safer communities. To help prove their point -- they spent time today with kids at Jackson Elementary School.

**10.30** Voting day is here for students at Dunlap Grade School. But it's just for practice. Kindergarten through fifth grade students all took part in a mock election. In past weeks they've been learning about the candidates and the voting process. Today they came up to the ballot box to make their choice. The school says it wants kids to come away with important lessons for later in life.

**10.29** Students from Peoria Christian School are getting a hands on approach when it comes to learning about Illinois waterways. Living Lands and Waters travels from state to state on a river barge offering workshops to students and adults. The workshops are designed to teach why it's important to keep rivers and lakes clean and also the importance of its uses to businesses. Students on board say they're happy to learn new things outside of the classroom.

### **Health**

**10.30** Taking a certain type of anti-depressant during pregnancy could put women and babies at risk. A study in the journal "human reproduction" focused on medications known as SSRIs. Researchers found those drugs increase the risk of miscarriage, pre-term birth, and neo-natal health complications. Many women undergoing fertility treatments are also depressed and about 11-percent take SSRI's. Doctors say those women need to be aware of the risks before taking that medication.

**10.29** Behavioral doctors can be difficult to find, but now locals will be able to find more of them in Peoria. Proctor hospital in Peoria cut the ribbon today for its new center for senior behavioral health. The center is the only of its kind in Peoria. It will have a full staff of behavioral doctors offering services that address both emotional and physical needs for the older population.

**10.29** Exercise may make you smarter. Canadian researchers put six adults who didn't exercise on a regular workout program. Four months later the study participants were not only healthier -- they also performed better on cognitive tests. Doctors say exercise improves blood flow to the brain.

## Social Justice

**10.31** Christopher and Jason Harris are charged with killing five members of the gee and constant family in September 2009 in Beason. Court costs could include a public defense team and possible over-time for staff. The county clerk says there used to be state money called a capital fund but that was taken away last year. Now the county has to foot the whole bill. The county says taxes won't go up but it will have to use revenue money from areas like property tax in order to pay back the bond.

**10.31** A former Peorian, who failed to appear with his wife twelve years ago for sentencing on a fraud scheme, pleads guilty today. Sixty five year old Nelson Hallahan and fifty four year old Janet Hallahan are each charged with failure to appear. The pair , who had been on the run since 2000, was arrested in Arizona last may after they were featured on America's Most Wanted TV show. Back in 2000, the Hallahans pleaded guilty to defrauding family and friends of one point seven million dollars from 1993 to 1999. Both Hallahans will be sentenced in Peoria federal court November 28th.

**10.23** A registered sex offender , who reportedly was seen talking with children in a Peoria school cafeteria last month, was indicted today. Thirty three year old Ricky Fletcher is charged with being a child sex offender at school. District 150 says Fletcher is the parent of an Irving student and he had been warned after being spotted on Irving school property two times before. Fletcher is due in court Thursday.

## November 2012

### Government

**11.29** Talks are heating up between the White House and Congress on how to avoid the fiscal cliff. President Obama is sending treasury secretary **Timothy Geithner** to Capitol Hill to lead the negotiations. Republicans want big cuts to entitlement programs such as Medicare and Medicaid. Democrats want higher taxes on the wealthiest Americans to generate revenue. President Obama has been pushing for public support holding a series of meetings with business owners and middle class voters.

**11.28** U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice continues her round of Capitol Hill talks today. Mrs. Rice has been meeting with congressional leaders to explain why she said the attack on the consulate in Benghazi was sparked by protests and not terrorists. Her first day of interviews did not go well.

**11.16** Former CIA director David Petraeus is headed to Capitol Hill this morning to testify about the attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi. Petraeus was scheduled to appear before congressional intelligence committees yesterday, but that was put on hold after he resigned last week following his acknowledgment that he had an affair. House and senate leaders say they still want to hear from Petraeus because he traveled to Libya after the attack and has knowledge about the situation that few others can provide.

### Environment

**11.29** Dozens of East Peoria residents met on Thursday with city officials and the state Environmental Protection Agency to discuss what residents call a "hazardous construction zone." The forum focused on a potential permit that would allow "automotive robotics proving lab" in East Peoria to dump up to five thousand pounds of Sulfur Dioxide per month. Residents

argued that would be harmful to local air and say they already have had concerns of noise pollution, coming from the plant.

**11.15** From Washington to Main Street, Americans are seeing the importance of re-using and recycling as a step toward helping the environment. Textiles are a big part of that process. Consumers donate millions of tons of clothing to be re-used... but often, those items don't end up where you might expect. Vinita Nair has the story.

**11.5** A photographer from National Geographic is visiting Bloomington's Miller Park Zoo on a mission to save endangered species. Joel Sartore is taking still images of animals in an effort to preserve their history. He's been with national geographic for twenty two years, and says during that time urbanization has caused the eco-system to suffer. He's now traveling to zoos across the country taking pictures of species that are likely to become extinct. His images will be sent to national geographic archives for future use in books, magazines, and internet articles. The hope is more people will be inspired to protect the environment.

### **Economy**

**11.29** A Bloomington food bank says protein filled items are in short supply. Today the group along with the Illinois Corn Marketing Board and Soybean Growers Association gave a nine-thousand dollar check to Midwest Food Bank. The money will be used to buy thirteen-thousand pounds of pork. Midwest food bank says a sluggish economy is prompting more organizations to knock at its door. There's even a waiting list of groups hoping to get supplies - and protein is a must.

**11.24** After the Black Friday rush, local stores tried to cash in on some of the holiday shopping on small business Saturday. Shops in Peoria beckoned customers in with small business Saturday signs and floor mats. Store owners say it's a day to remember the smaller businesses in the community and that they offer things that big box stores don't. Pottstown meat and deli in Peoria's Metro Centre was bustling.

**11.14** This morning people from all over Peoria County came together to talk about how to make the county better. Leaders from companies, the county, city, education and others filled the room to talk about Peoria's strengths. They discussed how to make money in ways that will increase Peoria's population, wealth and the number of people in the workforce.

### **Education**

**11.30** Seventeen year old Nate Darko was diagnosed with a brain tumor a few weeks ago and it was removed early Tuesday morning. To show support for Nathan, many of his friends, teammates and family members shaved their heads. WMBD's Cody Murphy shows us how his fellow students are taking action.

**11.29** After four years of working out of borrowed space, the East Bluff Community Center finally has a place to call home. Thursday the St. Bernard Catholic Church signed over the lease to the community center. What used to be the St. Bernard school will become a building where the community can come together. Groups like the boys and girls club, the friendship house, and senior programs will be able to use the building. The community center will let organizations use the classrooms, basketball court and stage.

**11.28** Bradley University is starting a new program to keep students safe at night. This week, Bradley is launching a shuttle service to transport students. From seven p-m to three in the morning, the hilltop safety cruiser - driven by specially trained student patrol - takes students wherever they need to go. The service is supposed to keep students from walking by themselves

at late hours. Bradley police chief Brian Joschko says more students have requested on-campus escort service in recent years, but most didn't want to hitch a ride from a cop.

### **Health**

**11.30** Obese children could be more vulnerable to food advertising. A new study in the Journal of Pediatrics looked at the brain scans of 10 healthy weight kids and 10 obese kids. Researchers found when looking at food logos obese children had more activity in the areas of the brain involving reward.

**11.28** Some researchers say a simple formula can predict a newborn's risk of obesity. A new study says taking factors like a child's birth weight, the body mass index of parents, the number of people in the household, the mother's professional status and the mother's smoking habits into account, doctors can predict with eighty percent accuracy whether a child will become obese. Currently more than a third of kids and teens are overweight or obese.

**11.27** A new study shows chemo-therapy can change the way the brain functions. It's a side effect known as '**chemo-brain**' and can impact a patient's concentration and memory. Researchers at West Virginia university used brain imaging and found areas of the brain used for planning and prioritizing used less energy after chemo-therapy.

### **Social Justice**

**11.29** Twenty seven year old Daniel Lisiewski was arrested Monday at his home in the eight hundred block of Fell Avenue. Police say they found almost three thousand grams of Cannabis, more than fifty-eight hundred dollars in cash and four guns in his home. He's bonded out of the McLean County Jail after being charged with manufacture or delivery of marijuana.

**11.29** The Reverend Jesse Jackson made a court appearance in northwest Illinois today on trespassing charges. Jackson was part of a group arrested last month during a demonstration at the Sensata plant. They were protesting the company's decision to move operations to china, which lead to the loss of more than 100 jobs. Jackson chose not to accept a fine offered by the judge. He and about 10 others are expected to go on trial in the spring.

**11.20** Police in Indianapolis now believe the explosion in a neighborhood that killed two people and damaged dozens of homes may have been ignited on purpose. Officials have opened up a homicide investigation into the explosion and are offering a 10-thousand dollar reward for any information that leads to an arrest in the case. A couple that lived next door to where the explosion originated was killed in the blast. Two homes were leveled and dozens more damaged.

## **December**

### **Government**

**12.10** Despite a face-to-face meeting between the president and House Speaker John Boehner over the weekend, leaders have yet to reach an agreement on how to avert the fiscal cliff. The biggest issue leaders can't seem to compromise on is taxes. Many republicans feel raising the tax rate for people who make more than 250-thousand dollars and up will hurt small businesses and slow job growth, but democrats disagree.

**12.11** The wife of former congressman Jesse Jackson, Junior, says she's not running for her husband's vacant seat. Chicago Alderman Sandi Jackson told reporters today she intends to finish her term in the Chicago City Council. There had been reports she missed important meetings

while her husband was out of the public eye for much of the past year. Jesse Jackson, Junior, resigned last month after being treated for bipolar disorder. He's also under federal investigation for allegedly misusing campaign funds.

**12.4** A new poll says Illinois Governor Pat Quinn is the most unpopular in the country. And tonight, we're asking him why. The poll revealed that only 25 percent of voters approve of Quinn's performance. A separate poll shows that if a general election were held today, Governor Quinn would lose to treasurer Dan Rutherford by a 43 to 39 percent margin. The poll says Quinn would narrowly win to congressman Aaron Schock 40 to 39 percent.

### **Environment**

**12.4** The Pekin water treatment facility will receive the first of many Illinois clean water initiative loans. As part of the state's one billion dollar water initiative, the city completed the requirements for a four point eight million dollar loan. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency says the water treatment facility will now offer cleaner and safer water.

**12.10** People in Bloomington could have extra cash in their pockets, if the city votes to lower the property tax levy next year. Leaders are expected to make that decision at the council meeting tonight. Leaders say many residents are struggling to make ends meet, so it's not the right time for a tax hike. The council will also vote to purchase five automated garbage trucks, a decision the public works director says will make waste pick up safer for his employees.

**12.11** Several other big items were passed tonight in council chambers. The city approved the purchase of seventy acres of undeveloped natural area, known as "Rocky Glen." The city had been asked to make the private, West Peoria property open to the public and possibly turning into a park. A grant by the natural resources department will allow the city to renovate the property.

### **Economy**

**12.5** Leaders in McLean County are trying to get to the root of issues in agriculture. The chamber of commerce and economic development council held an agri-business summit Wednesday. It brought together experts to talk about what's working well in the ag community, but also problems that arise due to government, weather or the economy. The goal is to work with county stakeholders on drafting solutions and what they call their white paper.

**12.10** Stocks opened slightly higher to start the new week on wall street. The surprise resignation of Italy's prime minister, Mario Monti, sent a jolt through European markets. Monti is credited with restoring confidence in Italy's economy. He announced his resignation after former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's party dropped its support for the country's government.

**12.3** Wall Street is getting mixed signals on the health of the economy. A survey shows U.S. Manufacturing shrank in November to its lowest level in more than three years. The impact of Superstorm Sandy and worries about automatic tax increases that could take effect next month reduced factory orders and manufacturing jobs.

### **Education**

**12.11** Bloomington's Central Catholic High School is reversing what it now calls a "bad" decision. Dallas Cowboys football player Josh Brent is a Central Catholic alum. Over the weekend police say he killed his teammate and long-time friend in a drunk driving crash. Initially central catholic took down Brent's jersey and picture. The thought was they could be a

distraction leading up to finals week. But after a firestorm of reaction, both items are on display again.

**12.11** The elite youth holiday choir is spreading its holiday sound throughout central Illinois this month. Over the next week and a half - Elite will do 17 performances at businesses, organizations and institutions. The group is made up of students from five different district 150 schools. The elite holiday choir will be joined on its concert tour by the elite ensemble and holiday praise dance troupe. The goal of the group is to not only bring holiday cheer, but to spread hope

**12.7** Just days after announcing his unexpected retirement, students got to work, hatching a gigantic send off for ISU President Al Bowman on the quad. Unbeknownst to Dr. Bowman, hundreds showed up, including ISU alumni. Together they paraded to the president's office-- and simply cheered his last name. The "bowman" chant is a popular tradition at sporting games and school events. Student say their pride for the president stems from him making ISU a great place to get a degree.

### **Health**

**12.11** A combination of tests may be the best way to diagnose Alzheimer's disease early. Doctors at duke gave patients an m-r-i and pet scan. They also took spinal cord fluid to look for genetic markers. Researchers found this approach was more accurate at detecting Alzheimer's than current methods like memory tests and physical exams. They admit the battery of tests is expensive and more study is needed to confirm the findings.

**12.12** For babies, a spoon full of sugar may take some of the pain out of immunization shots. Researchers studied over 15-hundred infants and found those who got drops of sugar before injections did not cry for as long. The study indicated sugar may trigger the body to release pain relieving chemicals.

**12.11** Exercise can help you live longer and Canadian researchers have figured out how much longer. A new study finds men who are active two and a half hours a week get an extra two and a half years of life. Active women live three years longer on average.

### **Social Justice**

**12.11** Effective today cameras are now allowed in McLean County courtrooms. The Illinois supreme court along with the eleventh judicial circuit announced the decision for a pilot program. It allows television, radio, and still photographers to cover cases. Juvenile, divorce and sex offenses are not included. Media must apply for courtroom permission two weeks in advance of a case. Mclean County's chief circuit judge says the measure is a victory for journalists.

**12.10** Bloomington council member Jennifer McDade is off the ballot in the race for ward five next year. The decision comes after her opponent Matthew Koettters found errors on her nominating petitions. McDade failed to specify the ward she is running for, and did not include the date of the February twenty-sixth primary. Today the election commission board chose to remove McDade from the ballot, saying her petitions are unclear and could confuse voters. She plans to appeal the decision to the McLean county circuit court.

**12.10** Misook Wang has pled "guilty" to concealing the homicide but she's pleading "not guilty" to three counts of murder. Tuesday Wang's father-in-law took the stand, saying his wife came to Bloomington under the impression she had an interpreting job, but never came home. Bloomington police officers who responded to the crime scene also testified Tuesday. A witness in the courtroom says when images of the scene were displayed, Wang kept her head down until

the photos were removed. Prosecutors allege Wang strangled her mother in law, then dumped her body in a Will county forest preserve.

Local:

Program	Day	Time
FOX News at 9	Monday – Friday	9:00pm – 10:00pm

The above program is locally produced, live news programs that present a mix of News, weather, sports and issue related stories. The issues responsive program segments are usually between one and one half to two minutes in duration, unless otherwise noted.

National:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>
Prime Programming	M-Sat Sun	7:00-9:00pm 6:00-9:00pm
<i>Variety of shows provided from the iconic FOX organization.</i>		
FOX Sports/Movies	Sat Sun	12:00-4:00pm 12:00-6:00pm
<i>Variety of sporting events/movies provided by the iconic FOX organization.</i>		
Children’s Programming	M-F Sat	7:00-7:30am 7:00-8:00am
<i>Variety of educational programming for children provided by the FOX organization.</i>		
Fox News	Sun	9:00-10:00am
<i>Variety of news events provided by the iconic FOX organizations.</i>		
Fox Various	Sat	10:00-11:30pm
<i>Entertainment programming.</i>		

Syndicated:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>
Divorce Court	M-F	9:00-10:00am
People’s Court	M-F	10:00-11:00am
Judge Joe Brown	M-F Sat	11:00-12:00pm 5:00-6:00am
Justice for All	M-F	12:00-12:30pm
America’s Court	M-F	12:30-1:00pm

Judge Mathis	M-F	1:00-2:00pm
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*Courtroom programming portraying real people and real cases.*

Jerry Springer	M-F	2:00-3:00pm
Trisha Goddard	M-F	3:00-4:00pm
Maury Povich	M-F	4:00-5:00pm

*Talk shows portraying a variety of topics.*

Simpson	M-F	5:00-5:30pm
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Big Bang Theory	M-F	5:30-6:00pm
		6:30-7:00pm
	Sat	5:00-6:00pm
	Sun	9:00-10:00pm

Two and ½ men	M-F	6:00-6:30pm
		10:00-10:30pm
	Sat	6:00-7:00pm
	Sun	11:00-12:00am

30 Rock	M-F	10:30-11:00pm
		12:30-1:00am
	Sun	10:00-11:00pm

TMZ	M-F	11:00-11:30pm
	Sat	9:00-10:00pm
	Sun	3:00-4:00pm

Dish Nation	M-F	11:30-12:00am
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Burn Notice	Sat	12:30-1:30am
	Sun	12:00-1:00am

Ring of Honor	Sat	11:30-12:30am
	Sun	1:00-2:00am

Sunny in Philadelphia	M-F	2:00-2:30am
	Sat	3:00-3:30am

Everybody Loves Raymond	M-F	12:00-12:30am
	Sat	2:30-3:00am

Scrubs	M-F	3:00-3:30am
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	Sat	1:30-2:00am
According to Jim	M-F	3:30-4:00am
	Sat	2:00-2:30am
Old Christine	M-F	4:30-5:00am
	Sat	4:00-5:00pm

*Variety of entertainment programming.*

### PSA's

Ad Council – Play  
 Illinois National Guard  
 Junior Achievement  
 American Heart Association  
 Crime Stoppers  
 Ad Council - Obesity Prevention  
 Foundation for A Better Life  
 American Diabetes Association PSAs  
 American Dental Association  
 Marines  
 Ad Council – Financial Literacy  
 Clean Hands Awareness  
 Junior Diabetes Research Foundation  
 Make A Wish Foundation  
 MS Society  
 Ad Council Inspire Inventions  
 Arbor Day Foundation Explore Nature  
 Drunk Driving Prevention  
 Big Brothers  
 Ad Council Live United  
 Social Security Administration  
 Ad Council Arthritis Prevention

***Operation Santa*** – WYZZ/WMBD created PSAs for this program to benefit a non-profit group, Citizen SAM (Citizens Support America's Military). The goal: To raise funds and items to stuff stockings that will be shipped to all branches of the military in Iraq and Afghanistan over the holidays. Funds were also raised for shipping.

***Junior Achievement*** – We produced and currently air Junior Achievement Money Minute segments. These on air pieces give financial advice in 60 seconds.

**Stuff-A-Bus:** WYZZ/WMBD created a PSA featuring on air talent to encourage viewers to donate food items to Stuff-a-Bus for the non-profit organization, Neighborhood House. This year's campaign raised more than 40,000 meals for people in Central Illinois

**Toys for Tots:** WYZZ/WMBD created PSAs to encourage viewers to donate to the US Marine's Toys for Tots campaign. The station also became a drop-off location and the viewers answered the call for action and filled our studio with toys.

**Salvation Army Bell Ringing:** The Salvation Army called on WYZZ/WMBD to take action for their cause. WYZZ/WMBD News anchors set up outside local grocery stores in Peoria and McLean County all day ringing bells to collect donations. We produced promos encouraging viewers to come out and we broadcast live during the noon, 5pm and 6pm newscasts.

**Project Roadblock -** WYZZ/WMBD participated in the Ad Council's Project Roadblock. We ran a PSA between Christmas and New Year's Day about drunk driving prevention and that "Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving."

**Santa Parade -** WYZZ/WMBD produced and aired the longest continuously running Santa Parade in the nation on Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup>. The parade is held in downtown Peoria.

**12 Hours of Giving Blood Drive -** WYZZ/WMBD partnered with the American Red Cross for their annual holiday blood drive. We ran promos several weeks before the event encouraging viewers to give the gift of life. We also ran News stories leading up to the event and day of the event.

These public service announcements were broadcast at various times throughout the day.