

WOUB FM Radio Network

Issues/Programs List

July-September 2012

The economy, upcoming elections, Ohio state redistricting on the upcoming ballot, and local fracking issues were the major topics of interest during the third quarter of 2012.

In addition to our daily news reports and special features, WOUB broadcast news stories focused on local opponents and proponents of fracking, capital funds, and regional technology development.

Education stories were important in our coverage area. We covered school consolidation and funding issues. We also provided extensive coverage of budget developments at Ohio University. Regional tourism was covered in a new series from producer Sandra Sleight-Brennan called "Road Trip."

We continue to provide an international perspective with programming from the BBC from 9 to 10am. Public affairs and news programming from NPR continue to be the prime focus of our weekday programming.

Rusty Smith

October 6, 2012

Third Quarter 2012 Ascertainment Report
Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Story: The Ohio Appalachian Collaborative

Description: The Ohio Appalachian Collaborative - President Obama has praised this group but there's a good chance you may not know about it.

The Collaborative is populated by 21 school districts in the region, including Wolf Creek Local in Washington County, where Robert Caldwell is the superintendent. "The Ohio Appalachian Collaborative is made up of...74 schools, approximately 2000 teachers and about 34,000 students," he says.

Caldwell says Wolf Creek and the other districts pay nothing for membership in the Ohio Appalachian Collaborative.

He says banding together allows the districts to attract funding to pay for education programs that students otherwise might not get.

Date: July 10, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Road Trip 11

Description: A trip down Zane's Trace, now known as Route 22.

Date: July 12, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Muskingum River Parkway State Park

Description: The Muskingum River is a favorite place for boaters in Southeast Ohio. Recreational craft go back in time as they travel 100 or so miles up and down the river, using locks built more than 150 years ago.

Recently, WOUB reporter Fred Kight visited the lock at Devola, near Marietta, to talk with lock technician Rick Burnside.

The Devola facility and the others are open only Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday and there is a fee for locking through.

Date: July 16, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Under the Elms Summer Concert Series

Description: The lawn chairs are pitched, the blankets unfurled and hundreds of people are gathered on the Campus Green at Ohio University in Athens.

It's time for another performance of the "Under the Elms" Summer Concert Series.

This free, outdoor concert by the Communiversy Band has been an Athens tradition since the 1940s. Part of that tradition is starting the concert with the Star Spangled Banner.

Date: July 17, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Motocross track big draw for local economy

Description: Fast Traxx Motoplex is between Athens and Nelsonville along US 33.

Norm Bickley of Glouster purchased Fast Traxx in 2004.

This year, there's racing on nine weekends at Fast Traxx and people come from all over to get in on the action. The site allows camping and offers weekend events.

He says the extra people coming in to the area mean extra dollars for local business. He often hears from gas stations in the area that experience a business boom during motocross weekends as people come in to buy ice, drinks and snacks.

Date: July 23, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Motoplex Draws Riders of All Ages

Description: Saturdays and Sundays are race days at the Fast Traxx Motoplex north of Athens.

But the track is open on Wednesdays, too, for practice.

And that's when I paid a visit to find out more about the sport and the riders.

Chase Kilbarger, of Logan is running some practice laps to up his game.

Motorcycle racing is no longer a pastime, it's an occupation.

Norm Bickley owns and operates Fast Traxx.

Bickley says the track ownership business was sputtering badly but is picking up speed again.

Business was booming three years ago, with between 1,000 and 1,100 entries an event then. Last year was all time low, says Bickley, the worst he's ever seen it.

Numbers this year are better, but not as good as three years ago.

Date: July 24, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Fate of Muskingum River Power Plant Up in the Air

Description: The Muskingum River Power plant is located in Washington County, near Beverly, and it's owned by American Electric Power, which has talked about closing it down.

AEP has also proposed keeping it open at a lower level of output, switching from coal to natural gas as a fuel source.

Melissa McHenry says the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio will, effectively, make the decision about Muskingum River.

The case is complicated, with implications for all of AEP's electric generating facilities, not just the Muskingum River plant.

McHenry says a ruling from the PUCO is just around the corner, hopefully by early August.

Date: July 25, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Road Trip!

Description: Scanning the Skies at Perkins Observatory in Delaware, Ohio

Date: July 26, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Green Local Hoping to Pass Levy

Description: A special election will be held August 7 for one school district in our region to seek additional tax funds.

The district is Green Local in Scioto County and Sandy Myers is the superintendent.

Green Local is on the ballot for a new local tax to pay for day-to-day expenses.

She says, "It is an emergency operating levy. It equates to 7 mills, which is \$475,000" annually.

Date: July 27, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Coshocton Farrier Heads to the Olympics

Description: The Olympic Games are underway in London, England, and Dave Farley, of Coshocton, is again a part of the competition.

Farley is not an athlete, but his skills certainly come into play.

"I am a full-time farrier. A farrier is a horseshoer. I shoe horses on a regular schedule year round. I spend six months in Ohio in the summer and six months working out of Wellington, Florida in the winter. I've been shoeing horses for close to 40 years and I'm absolutely in love with my profession," says Farley.

Farley's expertise is in the show jumping event and he will be tending to the footwear needs of two horses.

Farley knows the pressure of the arena: this is his 7th Olympic Games.

Date: July 30, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Road trip!

Description: A trip to Point Pleasant, birthplace of President Ulysses S. Grant.

Date: August 2, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Vino de Milo Seeing Significant Growth

Description: "Athens is the artisan food capital of Ohio."

So says Jonathan Leal, an artisan - or specialty - food producer himself.

Leal is the owner of Vino De Milo, which prides itself on local sourcing.

It was a small operation then and remains small but is getting bigger.

Leal says with the recent expansion into BBQ sauces and salsas, the number of products is approaching 40.

Date: August 13, 2012

Program: Morning Edition

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Exciting Time For Ohio Wine

Description: Donniella Winchell says, "It is an exciting time" for the wine industry in Ohio.

Winchell is the executive director of the Ohio Wine Producers Association.

She's not just talking about this year's grape crop, although she's upbeat about that, too. She says, "2012 - if we have an extended season and a dry fall - should be a very, very good year..."

"In 1978 ...there were 13 wineries," she says. "(Now) we're pushing 170. And I'm expecting by 2015 we'll break 200. That is phenomenal growth."

Why is the wine industry here growing as it is?

There are several reasons, says Winchell. "First of all, people have begun to discover wine. The second factor is that we have really figured out how to grow grapes."

Ohio wineries sold more than a million gallons of wine last year and it's estimated that more than 4,000 people are employed at the wineries.

Date: August 20, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Feral Swine Problems in Ohio

Description: Ohio has a pig problem, a wild pig problem.

Craig Hicks is a Wildlife Disease Biologist and he's the go-to guy in Ohio regarding feral swine

Hicks is not able to say how many wild pigs are out there and refuses to guess.

Hicks is with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, based in the Columbus area.

When he goes on pig patrol, he mostly comes here to Southeast Ohio.

An Ohio Department of Natural Resources map shows these feral swine living in Washington and Gallia counties and present in large areas in Vinton County and where Guernsey, Belmont, Noble and Monroe counties come together.

Hicks says disease and crop damage are his main concerns.

Hicks used to be satisfied with keeping disease in check but recently has upped the ante, making eradication more of a priority.

There's talk that some of the feral swine are really, really big.

Hicks says that's probably exaggerated.

Are feral swine dangerous?

No, says Hicks.

Date: August 21, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Road Trip!

Description: A trip to the Neil Armstrong Air and Space Museum in Wapakoneta

Date: August 23, 2012

Program: Morning Edition

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Soccer for Trimble Township

Description: Athens Soccer Association's Tad Albano talks about introducing the sport of soccer to the youth of Athens County's Trimble Township. The program is part of the townships application for a Promise Neighborhoods Grant from the US Department of Education

Date: August 24, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Road Trip!

Description: A trip to fort Meigs, a 10-acre 1812 battlefield in Perrysburg.

Date: August 30, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: FracTracker to Set Up Shop in Ohio

Description: Shale gas drilling continues to attract intense interest in Ohio.

Big money is involved, and jobs, and there are environmental concerns.

Executive Director, Brook Lenker, and his non-profit group, FracTracker Alliance are new players.

FracTracker Alliance has just received a \$130,000 grant from a foundation in Cleveland to set up shop in Ohio.

The non-profit was formed in summer of 2010 at the University of Pittsburgh to help primarily understand shale gas issues and impacts.

FracTracker is based in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania.

Date: September 4, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Road Trip!

Description: A trip to Hopewell Culture Historical Park

Date: September 6, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630

Story: Appalachian Health Summit

Description: The Second Annual Appalachian Health Summit will take place in Athens later this month.

Tom Kostorhyz is president of the board of Live Healthy Appalachia, which is hosting the summit.

Kostorhyz says the goal of the Health Summit is to reach over 600 individuals and to promote and support healthy living throughout the Appalachian region.

The Appalachian Health Summit starts on the 28th and will feature nationally known and respected speakers.

Day one is designed to help professionals, quote, "incorporate proven approaches to change management and motivational techniques" into their practices.

Day two will include a healthy living workshop.

Saturday will be free to the public at the Athens Recreation Center.

The group works to improve the health and wellbeing of Appalachians through education, outreach and advocacy emphasizing nutrition and other lifestyle choices.

Date: September 18, 2012

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0630 & 0830 & 1630