

WOUB Radio FM Network  
Issues/Programs List  
October to December 2019

While the national scene was dominated by the presidential administration, immigration and border security, trade tariffs, the presidential election, and the presidential impeachment, locally the economy, the opioid epidemic and economic innovation, were the major topics of interest during the fourth quarter of 2019.

In addition to our daily news reports and special features, the WOUB FM network broadcast news stories focused on actions of the Ohio state legislature, state news of Kentucky and West Virginia, and energy security. Regional news is also accessed through the Ohio Valley Resource, a network of stations throughout the Ohio River/Appalachian region funded by the stations and CPB.

We continue to provide an international perspective with programming from the BBC from 9-10am on our FM network. Public affairs and news programming from NPR continue to be the prime focus of our weekday FM programming. The daytime format consists of Morning Edition, 1A, Fresh Air, Here and Now, and All Things Considered from NPR; the Takeaway from PRI, and the BBC Newshour. NPR News is used hourly (except midnight to 5am).

This quarter, we continued our series "Spectrum" where Tom Hodson interviewed guests on a wide variety of topics from politics to culture to education. These interviews were featured in half hour programs on our AM service, with five minute features used during Morning Edition and All Things Considered. Other features included the Jazzed About Work and the Kindness Podcast.

We base our programming and production decision on a number of factors, including news stories and events in the region, letters and phone calls from listeners and efforts to find local angles to important national or international stories.

Rusty Smith  
January 10, 2020

## Fourth Quarter 2019 Ascertainment Report

Story: Nuclear Bailout Supporters Clashing With Referendum Petitioners in the Field

Description: The campaign around Ohio's nuclear bailout law is intensifying with more reports of people intimidating signature gatherers who want to put the law up for a vote on next year's ballot.

Date: October 2, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Behind the Numbers in Ohio's New Abortion Report

Description: There were slightly fewer abortions performed in the Buckeye state in 2018 than the year before. Supporters and opponents of legal abortion disagree on the reason for the decline.

Date: October 3, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Rethinking Retraining: Why Worker Training Programs Alone Won't Save Coal Country

Description: Bowman lives in Welch, in the south of the state, where he worked at the Pinnacle Mine, which shut down almost exactly one year ago, putting him and about 400 others out of work. After waiting a month in hopes someone would buy Pinnacle and the mine would reopen, Bowman decided to do a four-week training program offered by the United Mine Workers Career Center. He enjoyed it and earned a certification in heavy equipment operation. But when he came back home, he struggled to find a job in the field. So Bowman took matters into his own hands.

Date: October 7, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: DeWine Prepares To Release Specifics on Gun Background Checks, 'Red Flag Law'

Description: Gov. Mike DeWine plans to reveal on Monday the official bill language on expanded background checks and red-flag gun confiscation, two major issues that have been at the center of heated debate in the aftermath of the Dayton mass shooting.

Date: October 8, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Grassroots Growing: Hemp Farmers Form Cooperatives Amid Growth And Uncertainty

Description: Lonny Silvernail swings a heavy machete at a stalk of bushy hemp and chops the plant near the root, grabbing the five-foot-tall shoot with his sun-weathered hand.

It's an unusually hot October day on his farm, Beyond The Bridge LLC, tucked in the hills outside of Frankfort, Kentucky. But the heat doesn't faze Silvernail, sporting a sweat-soaked shirt, a huge smile, and a fat cigar between his teeth.

Silvernail and hundreds of others of farmers across the Ohio Valley are finally getting to harvest thousands of acres of hemp, the first harvest since the federal government legalized hemp cultivation last December.

Date: October 13, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Democratic Presidential Debate Sparks Demonstrations for Candidates, Causes

Description: Westerville was in the national spotlight as Otterbein University hosted the fourth Democratic Presidential Debate. While about 1,500 people were able to watch the event live in the campus gym, many more were outside the venue using the event as a platform for their own agendas.

Date: October 16, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: How Should Opioid Lawsuit Money Be Spent? Ohio Valley Has No Shortage of Needs

Description: Communities need more treatment and recovery programs, more help for affected children and families, and housing and workforce training for those in recovery. Public health workers, on top of addressing addiction, are also dealing with diseases related to needle drug use such as HIV, Hepatitis C, and heart infections known as endocarditis. All those take money.

Date: October 21, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Home Rule in Ohio - Under Attack or Reined In?

Description: The home rule provision was added to the Ohio constitution by voters in 1912, and the struggles between local officials and state lawmakers have raged almost since then.

Date: October 22, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Blackjewel Miners Get More of Their Pay As Labor Dept. Acts Against Bankrupt Company  
Description: Coal miners who went without pay when mining company Blackjewel declared bankruptcy this June are one step closer to receiving lost wages. The checks come weeks after some of the miners ended a long-running protest, and months after the federal Department of Labor first intervened to allege the company violated labor laws in the month before it folded. Rumors of a deal circulated early this month, and in consent orders filed in U.S. district courts in Kentucky and Virginia, Blackjewel committed to pay more than \$5 million to miners.

Date: October 27, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Large Coal Producer, Murray Energy, Files for Bankruptcy

Description:

Date: October 30, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Murray Energy's Bankruptcy Could Bring Collapse of Coal Miners' Pensions

Description: The recent bankruptcy of Ohio Valley coal giant Murray Energy has renewed fears about the already shaky financial foundations of the pension plan that tens of thousands of miners and their families depend upon.

Date: November 3, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Work Requirements for Ohio Medicaid Expansion to Start In 2021

Description: Advocates are worried about the process that will eventually require thousands of Ohioans in Medicaid expansion to work 20 hours a week or lose their benefits, which the state got permission to impose earlier this year.

Date: November 8, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Ohio DREAMers Share Their Stories Ahead Of U.S. Supreme Court Case on DACA

Description: A major piece of President Donald Trump's immigration policy is set for a showdown in the U.S. Supreme Court after the lower courts rejected the attempt to phase-out the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, also known as DACA.

Date: November 12, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: 'That's Vinegar': The Ohio River's History of Contamination and Progress

Description: In 1958, researchers from the University of Louisville and the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission gathered at a lock on the Monongahela River for routine collecting, counting and comparing of fish species.

At the time, the best way to accomplish this was what's called lock chamber sampling, or filling a 350-by-56-foot lock with river water, injecting it with cyanide and waiting for the dead fish to float to the top. Archaic, but effective.

On this particular day, researchers opened the chamber to find one fish inside.

Date: November 15, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Homelessness and Health Costs: This Kentucky Mom Faced Cancer While Living In Her Car

Description: Cancer was what finally pushed Kristi Reyes into living in her car.

The mother of four had worked all her life, starting at age 7 when she helped out at her family's furniture store. Most of her work was in retail. It was paycheck-to-paycheck but she kept her kids together and a roof over their heads.

But then in 2012 she was diagnosed with breast cancer. She started cycling through jobs because of the time she needed to take off for recovery from treatment. Soon, she was too sick to work at all and things continued to slide. She had Medicaid, what she calls a medical card, but it wasn't enough.

Date: November 18, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Governors Have Long Wanted More Power with State School Board, Superintendent  
Description: Lawmakers and governors often talk about education as a top priority. And for almost a quarter of a century, Ohio's governors have wanted more control over a panel that oversees education for the state's 1.6 million students and the top official it hires.

Date: November 20, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Lawmakers Debate Religious Expression in Ohio's Schools

Description: Some Ohio lawmakers are backing a bill passed by the House that they say protects the religious rights of students. Opponents say it's unnecessary and would hurt the academic integrity of schools.

Date: November 21, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Sponsor Of DeWine's Gun Bill Defends Proposal, Saying It Will Pass

Description: The sponsor of Gov. Mike DeWine's gun violence proposal said it's a plan that can pass - though it's getting criticism for not including mandatory background checks or a red flag gun seizure law.

Date: October 21, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 0745

Story: MSHA Comment Period Shows Divide on Measures to Protect Miners Health

Description: The comment period has closed for the Mine Safety and Health Administration's proposed rule on respirable silica, a major contributor to skyrocketing rates of lung disease among coal miners. The 49 relevant comments included a striking testimony from an anonymous coal miner sharing details of the ways in which current mine operators cheat on dust monitoring protocols.

Date: November 25, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: 'Dark Waters' Puts PFAS Saga on Big Screen As Ohio Valley Contamination Comes To Light

Description: The new film "Dark Waters" depicts the real-life story of the 20-year battle waged by attorney Rob Bilott against chemical giant DuPont.

We meet Bilott, played by Mark Ruffalo, as a young corporate defense lawyer living in Cincinnati. His grandmother, who lives in Parkersburg, West Virginia, gives his phone number to local farmer, Earl Tennant. Tennant lives next to a landfill where DuPont had been dumping a chemical called C8.

Date: November 25, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: One Ohio River town that's using outdoor recreation to boost its economy

Description: Every September, tourists flock to historic Marietta, along the banks of the Ohio River, for a celebration that harkens back to the Ohio Valley's early days.

The 44th annual Ohio River Sternwheel Festival held this year attracted an estimated 30,000 visitors to the small southeastern Ohio city. The streets buzzed with activity as vendors sold popcorn, French fries and locally made sandwiches.

More than 100 people sat along the riverbank on lawn chairs and blankets in the grass, looking out at a docked barge, where civic leaders hailed the opening of festivities.

Date: December 6, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: New SNAP Rule Could Hit Ohio Valley Hardest

Description: The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates almost 700,000 people across the country will lose food stamps in a new Trump Administration rule announced Wednesday.

Regional anti-hunger advocates and policy analysts say the Ohio Valley — and Appalachia in particular — could be disproportionately affected by this rule.

In general, the rule will make it harder for states to waive requirements that low-income able-bodied adults without dependents work (or participate in a work program) for at least 20 hours or lose their food stamps. USDA officials said the rule is to encourage SNAP recipients to find employment.

Date: December 9, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Kasich Comes Back To Ohio Statehouse for Unveiling Of Unique Portrait

Description: John Kasich was back at the Statehouse for his first event since leaving the governor's office in January – the unveiling of his official portrait.

Date: December 10, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00

Story: Ever Hear Of A Nurdle? This New Form of Pollution Could Be Coming To the Ohio River

Description: When the petrochemical plant being built by Shell Chemical Appalachia in Beaver County is complete, it's anticipated to bring 600 jobs as well as spinoff industries. But some researchers and activists warn that it could also bring a new type of pollution to the Ohio River Valley — nurdles.

Date: December 18, 2019

Program: Morning Edition/All Things Considered

Time: 0645 & 0845 & 1629

Length: 5:00