



WAAY-TV

Issue-Responsive Programming

July 1, 2018-September 30, 2019

Community Issues Identified

- Education
- Politics
- Crime & Public Safety
- Health
- Business, Technology & Economic Development

Regularly scheduled programs on WAAY-TV:

- WAAY 31 Local News M-F 4:30-5:00am
- WAAY 31 Local News M-F 5:00-6:00am
- WAAY 31 Local News M-F 6:00am-7:00am
- WAAY 31 Local News M-F 11:00am-12:00noon
- WAAY 31 Local News M-F 4:00pm-5:00pm
- WAAY 31 Local News M-F 5:00-5:30pm
- WAAY 31 Local News M-F 6:00-6:30pm

- WAAY 31 Local News M-F 10:00-10:35pm
- WAAY 31 Local News M-F 12:05am-12:35am
- WAAY 31 Local News S/S 5:00-5:30pm
- WAAY 31 Local News Sat 6:00-6:30pm
- WAAY 31 Local News S/S 10:00-10:35pm

Each of the above programs represents locally-produced news which includes issues-related news stories and segments on issues of local importance. Issue-responsive program segments are typically 1:00-3:00 segments.

- WAAY 31 LawCall Sun 10:35-11:05pm

WAAY 31 LawCall is a locally-produced legal hotline where viewers are able to call and ask legal questions on a variety of topics.

- WAAY 31 News Extra Sa 6:00-6:30am & 10:35-11:05am

WAAY 31 News Extra is a conglomeration of news stories and issues that were big throughout the week.

- Good Morning America M-F 7:00am-9:00am
- World News Tonight M-F 5:30pm-6:00pm
- ABC News Nightline M-F 11:35pm-12:05pm
- Good Morning America S/S 7:00am-8:00am
- This Week Sun 8:00am-9:00am
- World News Tonight S/S 5:30pm-6:00pm

The above programs are produced by ABC network news discussing issues-related stories and segments of national importance.

The following is a list of some of the more significant community issues addressed by this/these station(s) for the quarter specified. This listing is by no means complete, nor is the order in which these issues appear, intended to imply any degree of priority or significance of the issues.

Education

Madison County Superintendent Search

- Madison Co. school board voted for Deputy Superintendent Mike Minskey to take over after Matt Massey resigned in July to become president of New Alabama School of Cyber Technology.
- School board announced plans to hire outside agency to find candidates for the job.
- Reporter did a live PKG at 10 PM. Follow up reports after candidates were selected and announced.

Limestone Co. Superintendent Announces Resignation --September 18

- Superintendent Tom Sisk announced he's leaving after 8 years in Limestone Co. for the position in Bristol, TN.
- He said he was selected to help develop the new career technical programs – something he did in Limestone Co. During his tenure, the district became home to the biggest tech school in the state offering 25 different programs.
- Reporter did a live PKG during the 5 PM show.

Northwest Shoals Community College Hosts Expo

- College hosted World of Work event for younger students to learn more about different trade education programs.
- Middle and high school students were able to get hands-on experience in fields like manufacturing, public safety, healthcare, and construction.
- Event lasted 2 days in September.
- Reporter did a PKG for 4 and posted resources with the story online.

12 Mil Property Tax Vote In Madison

- People in Madison voted on a property tax increase to help fund a new school in the district. Overcrowding is a major issue and some tutors had to use supply closets for sessions.
- The 12 mil would cost homeowners \$120 for every \$100,000 their home is worth.
- It was passed on September 10th.
- Reporter did live PKG previewing the vote, and there was a live hit on the election results the day of voting.

Madison City Schools Get State Honor

- Madison Elementary School named best in state.
- The school district was named 46th out of more than 10,000 districts across the country by survey by Niche.
- It looked at things like state test scores, teacher quality, and opinions from parents and students.
- Reporter did a PKG for dayside show.

- **Politics**

Decatur Police Chief And Mayor Battle Over ICE

- Police Chief issued memo saying officers would not support ICE agents within the city's jurisdiction in late September.
- Mayor publicly disagreed, and shared a public Facebook post saying Decatur would not become a "sanctuary city."
- Both worked with the city legal team to come up with revised policy.
- Reporter did live story when the memo news broke, then did another PKG the next day about the revised policy.

Mayor Tommy Battle And City Council Pay Raise- September 26th

- Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle vetoed a city council measure that would give himself and city council a pay raise for the second time at
- He said he has "philosophical differences" with the council. He believes it should be a part-time job, while they think they should be fairly compensated.
- Council President called for a vote to override the veto, but they didn't get enough votes to do so at the council meeting.
- Reporter did a live PKG on the override vote, and a live shot on the results.

Governor Kay Ivey Admits To Blackface- August 29th.

- Governor Ivey's office released a statement and audio of her and her then-fiance describing a blackface skit she participated in during her time at Auburn University.
- She apologized and said it wasn't representative of who she is today.
- Breaking news hits during dayside shows and 10. PKG on a community conversation about the news the next day.

Sen. Doug Jones On Gun Control-September 4th

- Sen. Jones visited North Alabama for a town hall meeting.
- He said there's a "growing appetite" in Washington to pass gun control measures.
- Reporter did a live PKG on the event and what he said at 10.

Governor Kay Ivey Diagnosed With Lung Cancer - September 19th

- Governor Ivey said she was diagnosed with a "small malignancy" in her lung.
- Said it was discovered early and she would get outpatient treatment at UAB.
- She said it wouldn't stop her from doing the job she was elected to do.
- Breaking news hits through dayside shows and PKG from local cancer experts.

Crime & Public Safety

Huntsville Couple Charged With Aggravated Child Abuse- July 23rd

- Huntsville Police were called to the scenes of an unresponsive child after concerns from paramedics.
- Officers on the scene said children looked very thin and malnourished.
- One child died at the hospital and the other was in critical condition.
- Reporters did stories on the investigation and subsequent court hearings from children's parents.

Elkmont Family Murdered-September 2nd

- A teenager is charged with killing his entire family in their Elkmont home.
- His dad, stepmom, 6-year-old brother, 5-year-old sister, and 6-month-old brother are among the dead.
- WAAY 31 did several reports on this story. We looked into the crime itself, juvenile sentencing, funeral arrangements, and community events. One of our evening anchors field anchored from the scene the day of the crime.

Capital Murder Arrest In Lauderdale Co.- September 18th

- Authorities in Lauderdale Co. found a man shot to death in his home.
- Crime scene was large. Investigators roped off 3 homes while they collected evidence.
- Authorities said it was a domestic violence situation.
- His ex-wife was arrested and charged with capital murder.
- Reporter did a breaking news hit in the midday shows, and did live hits throughout the early evening with new information.

Shooting In Jackson Co. Courthouse- September 18th

- A man was airlifted to the hospital after he was shot by a deputy in the courthouse.
- Sheriff's office said the man was trying to take a gun into the courthouse. When a deputy told him to stop, they got into an altercation and he was shot.
- Team coverage throughout the evening. 2 reporters had multiple live shots during early evening shows.

Armed Robberies In North Alabama

- A string of armed robberies were reported in Huntsville, Madison, Madison Co., Athens, and Limestone Co.

- Through surveillance video from each store that was targeted, investigators were able to link 2 suspects to all of the robberies.
- 1 man was arrested in Limestone Co. and authorities are still searching for the second suspect.
- Live reports on the robberies when they happened, and then follow up PKGs on developments in the investigation.

Health

Hepatitis A Outbreak Spreads

- State health officials confirmed a Hep A outbreak in the Sand Mountain region spread to neighboring counties.
- Public Health Department said it's working to get vaccines for people who are deemed "at risk" of getting the disease.
- We talked with county health departments about what's being done to stop the spread and talked to health officials about what the disease can do to your body.
- Live PKG in the 6 PM show the day the outbreak spread. Follow-ups later with updated case numbers and vaccination information.

Vaping Disease Reported In Alabama- September 27th

- Alabama was one of 4 states that hadn't reported any cases of the mysterious vaping-related illness.
- We talked to the state health department to find out how they classify a case as "probable" or "confirmed."
- PKG in an early evening show explaining the health department's process.

Norovirus Outbreak At University Of Alabama In Huntsville- September 11th

- School health department confirmed 58 students had a norovirus that spread on campus.
- Most recovered within a few days, but 4 were hospitalized for closer monitoring and IV's.
- State Health Department is investigating outbreak.
- Reporter did a live hit when the news broke, and a follow up story the next day with reaction from students and school officials.

Athens Family Files Lawsuit Against JUUL

- A family is suing JUUL and the store where parents said their son purchased vaping products when he was 16.
- They said using the JUUL led to a severe nicotine addiction, and he now has a severe brain injury.

- Vape shop said it ID's anyone who looks under the age of 30, and turns away customers without ID.
- Reporter did a story explaining the lawsuit in an early evening show.

Flesh-Eating Bacteria Case In Florence

- A woman in Florence said her family went on a kayaking trip in Waterloo in mid-July. When they got home, her husband had a fever and said he wasn't feeling well.
- He went to the doctor, who confirmed it was a case of necrotizing fasciitis. He had surgery to remove the infected area and received other treatment.
- We did a story speaking with the man's wife in an early evening show. We did another follow-up once we got word from doctors he'll be ok.

Business, Technology & Economic Development

Lockheed Martin Expands In Huntsville- September 16th

- Lockheed Martin announced it will be expanding its Huntsville location.
- Facility will design, build, and test hypersonic missiles.
- Company will add 200 jobs paying about \$100,000 each.
- Reporter did a live PKG on the details of the expansion in an early evening show.

Ivanka Trump Visits North Alabama- September 10th

- Ivanka Trump visited the Alabama Robotics Technology Park in Decatur for a tour.
- While there, she announced the Federation For Advanced Manufacturing Education (FAME) program will be expanding nationwide.
- Right now, Alabama is one of 13 states that offers it.
- Live hit from reporter in midday when Ivanka Trump arrived, then 2 stories for the early evening shows.

Raytheon Hits Missile Milestone

- Raytheon delivered its 400th standard missile.
- The SM3 interceptor is a defensive weapon the US Navy uses to destroy incoming ballistic missiles.
- Company started making them at the Huntsville facility in 2013.
- There was a ceremony to mark the milestone.
- Reporter did a hit in an early evening show.

NASA Administrator Visits Marshall Space Flight Center- August 18th

- NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine visited Marshall Space Flight Center.

- He confirmed Marshall will lead development on the lunar lander portion of the Artemis missions.
- He also confirmed Huntsville-native Dr. Lisa Watson-Morgan will be the program manager.
- We did live hits throughout the day on Bridenstine's visit and what this means for Huntsville. An evening anchor also field anchored the 4/5/6.

Limestone Co. 911 Center Upgrades

- Limestone Co. adds new technology to its emergency dispatch system.
- Dispatchers can use the internet to find callers' exact location. Callers can also send dispatch video of a wreck, fire, etc. so that first responders can be more prepared when they arrive at the scene.
- Reporter did a story for the early evening news.