

**SAGAMORE HILL BROADCASTING OF  
ALABAMA, LLC**

**WBMM-TV**

**FOURTH QUARTER 2009 ISSUES/PROGRAMS REPORT**

**OCTOBER 1, 2009 – DECEMBER 31, 2009**

**FILED: JANUARY 10, 2010**

**WBMM-TV**  
**PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS**  
**Fourth Quarter, 2009**

## **WBMM-TV LOCAL PROGRAMS**

### **WBMM-TV NEWS**

**MONDAY-FRIDAY**

**9:00-10:00 P.M.**

Late breaking news, sports, and weather are the hub of this newscast. Viewers are given up-to-the minute news coverage, as well as a recap of the day's top stories. Coverage of stories that concern every sector of our society is featured. Government, education, economy, health, are given the same emphasis as crime, recreation, etc. Stefanie Hicks, Glenn Halbrooks, Chris Bailey, and Dee Jackson are the anchors.

## **WBMM NEWS PROGRAM**

### **DAILY BUZZ**

**MONDAY-FRIDAY**

**5:00-8:00 A.M.**

The Daily Buzz is a National syndicated morning news program. It provides viewers with late-breaking national and international news, sports, weather, financial reports, and entertainment. The show is known for its informal atmosphere as opposed to its more conservative counterparts. Andrea Jackson, Ron Corning, and Kia Malone are the anchors

## **PROBLEMS AND NEEDS**

**FOURTH QUARTER, 2009**

**JANUARY 10, 2010**

**1. CRIME**

**2. GOVERNMENT**

**3. HEALTH**

**4. EDUCATION**

**5. ECONOMY/JOB/INDUSTRY**

**6. RECREATION/LIFESTYLES**

**WBMM-TV**  
**PROGRAMS OF PUBLIC INTEREST**  
**Fourth Quarter, 2009**

## **WBMM NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST: CRIME**

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10/5/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **MAILMAN MURDER**

Federal Agents say they will not leave the Tallapoosa County town of Camp Hill until they arrest the person who shot and killed a postal carrier. 47 year old Tony Harrelson, a postal carrier for 4 years was shot and killed while returning from his route. Investigators hope you can help solve the crime and are offering a \$100,000 reward to crack the case. Since the murder took place on government property against a federal employee, this will be prosecuted as a death penalty case. You are asked to call the US postal inspection Service, if you have any information that could help solve the case. That number is toll free 877-876-2455.

2:05 PKG

10/8/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **MURPHY TRIAL**

A guilty verdict was handed down for Jason Murphy in his third murder trial. A jury has convicted him of killing Elmore County businessman Ronny Holman in 2003. The Holman family has had to relieve the details of 45 year old Ronny Holman's murder, but they say the guilty verdict was worth it. The minimum sentence for Murphy is 99 years to life in prison but he could be eligible for parole. Defense attorneys say Murphy was not upset with the verdict and was pleased he would not lose his life. A sentencing date has not been set. The Attorney General's office will now set a date for the murder trial for Murphy's brother Jarrod who has also been accused of killing Holman.

1:30 PKG

10/12/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **MOTEL EVACUATION**

Two people are arrested on charges of trying to make meth inside a Montgomery hotel. Police say Siubo Souvannasing and Starr Sullins both of Montgomery were arrested around 1 o'clock this morning at America's Best Inn on Carmichael Road. Hotel officials called police after they noticed a strong ammonia smell coming from one of the rooms. 19 rooms were evacuated. The Drug Enforcement Agency, the Montgomery Hazardous Materials Unit, and a special DEA unit from Birmingham had to be called to the scene.

:30 WIPEVO

10/23/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**BROWN ARRESTED**

An 18-year old who had hoped to become Montgomery's first Teenage mayor pleads guilty to harassment. The Montgomery Advertiser reports that Jamal Brown pleaded guilty to 3<sup>rd</sup> degree domestic violence charges. He is currently campaigning for the District 4 Seat on the Montgomery City Council, which will be up for election in 2011. Brown said he pleaded guilty on behalf of his family after a teenage girl reported that he had hit her during a dispute. Brown says he only pushed the girl down after she threatened his elderly grandfather.

:30 VO

10/26/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**WASHINGTON SENTENCED**

A Millbrook man is sentenced for trying to kill his ex-wife. Irilmoskomazzarella Washington was sentenced to 20 years in prison without the chance of parole. Washington pleaded guilty to shooting his ex-wife Anita Lafay Washington in the parking lot of Prattville Christian Academy while she was waiting to pick up her child last year.

:20 VO

10/28/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**LANGFORD VERDICT**

Guilty verdicts are handed down against Birmingham Mayor Larry Langford in a \$7.1 million bond bribery scheme. A federal jury in Tuscaloosa found Langford guilty of all 60 Counts against him, and has now been automatically removed from office! Prosecutors said Langford accepted cash and luxury items worth around \$236,000 while serving as president of the Jefferson County Commission. In exchange, he sent Montgomery Businessman Bill Blount \$7.1 million in bond business. As a result of some of the bond deals Jefferson County is now trying to avoid filing the largest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history with over \$3.9 billion dollars in sewer bond debt. Langford must pay back \$241,000. Carol Smitherman will now become the interim mayor until an election can be held. The Birmingham news reports The Judge ordered a sentencing report within 90 to 120 days. Langford will remain free until then on a \$50,000 bond.

1:00 WIPE/VO

10/28/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**ANDALUSIA PASTOR FOLO**

Pastor Ralph Aaron of Andalusia has been appointed an attorney and there is a settlement conference set for next Friday. As we've reported, Aaron was arrested on three counts of sex abuse of a child and sodomy last week. There are now 150 charges all involving multiple boys between the ages of 8 and 12. Aaron is the pastor of Grace Christian Fellowship in Andalusia. District Attorney Greg Gambriel says he will seek multiple life sentences. Aaron is being held on a \$24 million bond.

:50 VO/SOT

10/30/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**HALLOWEEN POLICE COVERAGE**

Police are gearing up for Halloween in Greenville on one of their busiest nights of the year. Police Chief Lonzo Ingram says 2 shifts of patrol officers will be on the streets during trick or treat hours. He also says unmarked cars will be out, and officers will have their eyes on Greenville businesses as well. Trick or Treating in Greenville is tomorrow from 6 to 8.

:25 WIPE/VO

11/4/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**BABY SEARCH**

Police spent most of the day yesterday searching a Lee County Landfill for the newborn's body, after police say a woman told them she had a miscarriage and tossed her dead baby into the trash. Montgomery Police Lieutenant Mark Drinkard tells us as of right now the mother is not facing criminal charges. Drinkard says they are still looking at the evidence and following leads.

:30 VO

11/6/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**FT. HOOD LATEST**

It's still unclear what caused a soldier to allegedly open fire on his comrades at Fort Hood. Those caught in the gunfire say the suspect was calm and methodical as he mowed down fellow soldiers. Hospital officials say some of the 30 people wounded in yesterday's attack may not survive. The alleged gunman, who was shot four times, remains in a coma. CW News Reporter Joel Brown has the Top Story on "The CW First News at Nine".

1:30 PKG



11/10/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**NAT'L SNIPER EXECUTION**

The convicted DC Sniper John Muhammad was executed tonight for one of the 10 deaths he masterminded during a 3 week shooting spree in 2002. He was also accused of a shooting in Montgomery that left one woman dead and another woman hurt. CW News Reporter Joel Brown has the Top Story on "The CW First News at Nine".

1:30 PKG

11/12/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**SHOOTING LATEST**

Montgomery police say they now have a second person in custody, and is being questioned in connection with the murder of 17 year old Marcus Alloway. An 18 year old man whose name hasn't been released, has been charged with murder. Alloway was killed at 2:30 A.M. Wednesday at a private party off South Court Street. Police call him a hero because he tried to protect another person from getting shot. He was a student at Lanier High School.

:20 WIPE VO

11/16/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**CHILD FOUND**

Police in North Carolina have found a body believed to be that of a 5 year old girl that had been missing for a week. Her mother is under arrest and accused of selling her daughter into child prostitution. She was last seen alive on surveillance video as a man carried her into a hotel. He's now charged with her kidnapping.

:30 ANIM VO

11/20/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**SMURF ARRESTS**

Seven people are arrested on drug charges in Montgomery county for so-called "pill smurfing" which is buying pills to use to make methamphetamine. The Montgomery County sheriff's office says it conducted a 5 month long investigation into a pill smurfing ring. Authorities say the "smurfers" would buy cold medicine from pharmacies, then sell the pills to people cooking meth. Deputies also discovered a meth lab, methamphetamine, and firearms.

:30 VO

11/25/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**HOLIDAY POLICE**

There will be eyes of a different kind in the skies at shopping centers across Montgomery. Today, the Montgomery Police department announced it is starting its full scale holiday shopping security detail on black Friday, the busiest shopping day of the year. There will be an increase in officers patrolling all major shopping centers around the city with around the clock surveillance. Police advise people to take their own precautions by keeping their personal belongings locked up and out of plain view.

:30 VO

11/30/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**DEATH INVESTIGATION**

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office is conducting two death investigations after two sets of remains were found Saturday on Alco Road in Montgomery County by a person who was hunting. Authorities say the remains will be examined by the Department of Forensic Science.

:30 VO

12/2/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**WHITE HALL MAYOR SENTENCED**

We are covering Lowndes County where former White Hall mayor John Jackson learns his fate after an ethics conviction. He was given two years probation and ordered to pay more than \$43,000 in restitution as well as court costs and \$600 in fines and fees. Jackson pled guilty to depositing a check intended for the town of White Hall into his personal bank account back in October and was forced to resign as mayor. He will also be required to check-in with a probation officer and submit to periodic drug tests.

1:00 VO/SOT

12/4/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**ATM FORKLIFT**

We are covering Butler County tonight, where a suspect attempts to steal an ATM machine using a forklift. Greenville Police responded to an alarm at the BB & T Bank around 4 A.M. this morning. Once on the scene they discovered this damage. Police believe the suspect abandoned the robbery when an alarm sounded. The forklift was apparently stolen from another bank nearby that is undergoing renovations.

:55 VO/SOT

12/14/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**SELMA CRIME SHOPPING**

Covering Dallas County and City law enforcement say they are beefing-up patrols to try and stop crime during the holiday season. They say shopping with a friend instead of alone, parking in well-lit areas, keeping valuables out of sight, and being aware of your surroundings will cut the chances of becoming a victim.

:50 VO/SOT

12/18/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**FAULKNER HEARING**

The Faulkner University student whose post on the social networking web site Facebook spurred a campus-wide scare will most likely spend the holidays behind bars. Today a judge refused to reduce Zachary Lambert's \$1/2 million bond. Officials say Lambert's December 2nd post said he would break the Virginia Tech school shooting massacre's record of 32 killings. The remark led to a temporary lockdown at Faulkner.

:55 VO/SOT

12/31/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**TALLASSEE MURDER REAX**

One day after a police shooting leaves a Tallassee man dead, the man's family speaks out. They want answers while authorities try to ease tension in the community. CW News Reporter Joy Lambert has the Top Story on "The CW First News at Nine".

1:50 PKG

## **WBMM-TV LOCAL NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST: GOVERNMENT**

10/6/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **WHITE HALL MAYOR**

We have new information from the town of White Hall. The mayor, John Jackson has just resigned after pleading guilty to an ethics charge. He turned in his resignation tonight before the city council, and it takes effect tomorrow ending his nearly 30 years in office. Jackson pleaded guilty to putting a check intended for the city into his personal bank account. Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Davis will take over as mayor.

:30 VO

10/6/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **BYRNE ANNOUNCEMENT**

From Campaign 2010, a Republican candidate for governor blasts the Alabama Education Association saying AEA stands for the worst in the teaching profession. Bradley Byrne is signing a pledge against taking any campaign money from AEA, which lobbies for teachers statewide. Byrne is the former chancellor of the state's two-year colleges and says he fought AEA to get criminal background checks for college employees and to ban them from serving in the legislature. He says AEA will spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to keep him from winning the race.

:55 VO/SOT

10/16/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **ROBY/BRIGHT MONEY**

The race for the second congressional district is already heating up. Republican Martha Roby says she's raised over \$216,000 from 542 contributors for her campaign and thinks her campaign is doing extremely well. Democratic Congressman Bobby Bright is also a candidate for the second district. He says he's raised nearly \$750,000 since being elected in November. Bright has raised \$200,000 in just the third quarter.

:30 VO

10/26/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **RILEY LOOK AHEAD**

The next legislative session is just around the corner and Governor Bob Riley is hoping ethics reform will be on the forefront of lawmaker's minds. Riley says he hopes lawmakers will not bring up the gambling issue. But one Democratic state representative says electronic bingo will likely be a hot issue, especially since next year all legislators are up for re-election.

1:00 VO/SOT

11/16/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**RILEY ON GAMBLING**

Governor Bob Riley wants all law enforcement agencies in Alabama to shut down every electronic bingo hall in the state. Riley says a State Supreme Court ruling makes it clear all the machines are illegal. This is the Top Story on "The CW First News at Nine".

1:30 VO/SOT

11/25/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**TROOPERS HOLIDAY**

This is one of the busiest days of the year on Alabama roadways as folks travel for the Thanksgiving Holiday, and Alabama State Troopers are keeping a close eye on drivers. Alabama state troopers started their holiday blitz today. They will be working extra-duty patrols from this afternoon until midnight Sunday. There were 10 deaths during the Thanksgiving season in Alabama last year, and most were related to drinking while driving or failure to wear seat belts.

:40 VO

11/30/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**AFGHANISTAN**

President Obama has already begun putting his new strategy for Afghanistan into motion. He ordered his war cabinet into action over the weekend. Today he's been calling foreign leaders to brief them, and, tomorrow night he'll outline the plan to the American public. But -- he's facing a skeptical audience. CW First news at 9's Joel Brown has more.

1:30 PKG

12/2/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**TIM JAMES**

From Campaign 2010 - Republican Gubernatorial Candidate Tim James says if he's elected he will create a statewide group to make sure Alabama's military communities are ready for their next review. James says the group will work to make sure Alabama's military is "BRAC" ready. BRAC stands for Base Realignment and Closure. The next review is scheduled for 2015. James says a good review could provide a boost to the state's economy by bringing in more jobs.

:40 VO

12/14/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**SHELBY DOLLARS**

Alabama senator Richard Shelby was one of just three Republicans who voted yes to the \$1.1 trillion appropriations bill approved by Congress. If signed by President Obama, The Cleveland Avenue YMCA will receive \$500,000 for its afterschool and weekend programs. Troy University's Computer Forensics Lab would get \$200,000 and the Alabama department of Forensic Science would get \$1.4 million. Those are just a few of the projects that will get grants throughout the state.

:35 VO

12/28/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**AIRLINE ATTACK**

3 days after what authorities are calling an attempted terrorist attack on a US plane. President Barack Obama is speaking out promising to defend America against its enemies. His strong words come as Al -Qaeda claims responsibility for the incident.

CW first news at 9's Terrell Brown has the latest.

1:30 PKG

12/28/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**SPARKS DECISION**

Democratic Gubernatorial Candidate Ron Sparks says he'll announce tomorrow whether or not he'll drop out of the Governor's race. Sparks is considering a run for the 5th Congressional District seat since the current representative, Parker Griffith of Huntsville, switched to the Republican party (he was elected to that seat as a Democrat last year). Since Parker's announcement some Washington Democrats have been encouraging Sparks to switch campaigns.

:30 VO

## **WBMM-TV LOCAL NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST: HEALTH**

10/6/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **SWINE FLU**

The first few doses of the swine flu vaccine have now been shipped to Alabama. But these shipments are so small the shots are being reserved for health care workers and certain at-risk people. State health officials say the state is getting 5,300 doses to start, but 51,000 doses are expected later this week. Officials say so far, they have received 1.2 million requests for the swine flu vaccine statewide. They anticipate a shipment of 250,000 doses for the general public by mid-October.

:30 VO

10/26/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **H1N1 OPP**

An Opp pediatrician has received the swine flu nasal mist vaccine. South Alabama Pediatrics has 500 doses of the vaccine from the Centers For Disease Control. Doctor Bhagwan Bang says he gives 4 to 5 nasal vaccinations a day and he says he encourages you to get it and do anything you can to prevent Swine Flu.

1:00 VO/SOT

10/28/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **FLU SHOTS**

Health departments across the state offered H1N1 vaccination clinics today for the first time. All 67 Alabama counties held free H1N1 vaccinations clinics today, but doses were reserved for those at high-risk of getting the virus (pregnant women, young children and their caregivers, children with preexisting medical problems, and health care workers). A total of 55,000 doses were dispersed throughout Alabama. Montgomery County was allotted 2,600 doses of the vaccine. Health department officials continue to stress patience in the delay of vaccinations coming into the state.

:30 VO

12/18/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **AUTISM STUDY**

New government numbers show more and more children are being diagnosed with Autism. About 1% of US children now suffer from the disorder. Experts say this new data combined with preliminary findings released earlier this fall show autism is a growing health concern. CW First News at 9's Janet Choi has more.

1:30 PKG

## **WBMM-TV LOCAL NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST: EDUCATION**

10/6/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **WRWOS**

Korean native and St James senior Sue Kwon has had a lifelong love for art. She hopes to work as an illustrator one day, and she is well on her way after recently winning two national awards. She was one of only four Alabama students chosen for a National scholastic arts gold key award, and her art was also chosen out of 3,500 entries to be a part of the prestigious Advanced Placement Studio Art Exhibit. Her piece, titled MB, will be displayed in New York City and Washington D.C, as well as shown at art exhibits throughout the U.S. Sue says for her, art is more than just a class, it's a passion. She said that every time she draws she feel happy and content with herself.

1:40 PKG

10/12/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **PERRY CO COAL ASH DONATION**

County leaders say Perry County schools are benefitting from coal ash. Money generated from the disposal of coal ash from Tennessee at a county landfill is helping to offset school budget cuts. Schools got \$100,000 to finish the 2009 fiscal year and say without the money the district would have needed to get a loan to make its final payroll. The commission has also pledged to give schools an additional \$450,000 this fiscal year, which started October first. Perry County will get about \$3 million in a deal to dispose of millions of tons of coal ash.

:40 VO

10/15/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

### **JESSE JACKSON SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Reverend Jesse Jackson is bringing scholarship money to Alabama. Jackson will award 24 Rainbow Coalition "PUSH for Excellence" \$1,000 scholarships to students at Alabama State University and Tuskegee University. He will award the scholarships October 26 at Victoryland in Macon County. Jackson says the scholarships are to help 12 financially deserving students who need help to stay in college.

:30 VO



10/26/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**JACKSON IN TOWN**

Students in Montgomery and Tuskegee get a motivational push to stay in school they may never forget. The Reverend Jesse Jackson brings his fight for education reform to Alabama and some scholarship money too. The Reverend Jackson also made a stop at Lanier and Carver high schools in Montgomery. Tonight, he's honoring some Alabama dignitaries who are involved with education. Among those being recognized are Paul Hubbert, the head of the Alabama education association and Victoryland owner, Milton McGregor.

1:30 PKG

10/28/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**THOMPSON SAGA**

One school board member is calling for the firing of Montgomery school superintendent Barbara Thompson, but other city and county leaders are hoping the controversy surrounding Thompson and her educational status will be put to rest. Charlotte Meadows says board members agreed last night in an executive session that Thompson was truthful, and to put the issue behind them and move forward. Board member Heather Sellers says it will be hard to do that, after Sellers says Thompson refused to answer any educational background questions she presented to Thompson in a letter.

1:30 PKG

11/10/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**AL REPORT CARDS**

A new study gives Alabama's Education System low grades According to a US Chamber of Commerce report. Alabama is in the bottom of educational standards. The state received "D" grades in finance and removing ineffective teachers. They earned "C's" in school management, data collection and post-secondary education opportunities. However they did earn a "B" in hiring and evaluation of teachers.

:25 GRFX

11/10/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**WRWOS**

Some area students put their artistic skills to work for a good cause - - their education. You can own a one of a kind piece of art and help out their school at the same time by purchasing chairs that were painted and decorated by Prattville Primary School students that are up for bid. All of the money from the auction will help the school overcome tough budget cuts. If you want to see the chairs, go to the Autauga County Board of Education's website (acboe.net) click on schools, then Prattville Primary. Once you get to their website, click on chair auction. All of the decorated chairs and what each one is going for at the time is listed. The auction ends next week, on Thursday, November 19.

1:45 PKG

11/16/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**SUPERINTENDANT MEETING**

Montgomery County's School Superintendent meets with school board members today, behind closed doors. Barbara Thompson and school board president Beverly Ross met with board members in groups of two which means the meetings can be held without inviting the public. School spokesman Tom Salter says the meetings are a chance for Thompson to share her goals with school board members, and will then address the public about those goals at the next school board meeting.

:30 VO

11/23/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**CHARTER SCHOOLS**

Governor Bob Riley plans to push for charter schools in exchange for millions of dollars in federal funding, but opponents say that would take money away from financially strapped public schools. Alabama is one of eleven states without charter schools. CW News Reporter Jenna Deery has the Top Story on "The CW First News at Nine".

1:45 PKG

12/2/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**SCHOOL SECURITY**

A school in Elmore County is taking part in a statewide pilot program aimed at improving school security and keeping sex offenders off campus. Redland Elementary School and the District Attorney's office are working together on the program. When visitors arrive at school, their driver license numbers are scanned into a computer system. That will pinpoint whether someone is a child sex offender.

1:00 VO/SOT

12/14/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**GANG RESISTANCE**

125 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at Brewbaker Intermediate School graduated from the Gang Resistance Education and Training, or the GREAT Program, a 12 week program designed to keep them out of gangs. The department of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives conducts the program. Officials say reaching out to students at this grade level is crucial to shaping the rest of their lives.

:30 WIPE/VO

12/28/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**MAGNET SCHOOLS APPS**

If you are a parent who wants your child to apply for a magnet school in Montgomery, there are now two times that you can apply. The winter application period is January 5-29; the spring application period is April 16 - May 14. Students who are not accepted during the winter application period will remain in the applicant pool through the spring. Applications can be picked up at the Central Office on South Decatur Street, or download an application at [mps.k-1.al.us](http://mps.k-1.al.us).

:30 VO

**WBMM-TV LOCAL NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST:  
ECONOMY/JOB/INDUSTRY**

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10/8/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**RIVER BANK & TRUST CO**

Montgomery welcomes a new bank. River Bank and Trust held a ribbon cutting for its newest branch on Halcyon Drive. This makes the bank's third location in the River Region. There are also offices in Prattville and Wetumpka. Bank officials say they're excited about their newest branch and look forward to serving the people of Montgomery.  
:30 VO

10/16/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**UNEMPLOYMENT**

New unemployment numbers are in for the state. The rate is now 10.7%, a 25 year high that is up from the last rate of 10.3% which is nearly double what was recorded last year. The counties with the highest rates are all in the CW First News at 9 viewing area. Wilcox County sits at 25.6%, Dallas County at 21.1%, and Perry County at 19.8%.  
:30 VO

10/23/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**TROY U & BUSINESS**

The City of Troy is booming, as the Troy Trojans prepare to kick off against North Texas this weekend for homecoming. City officials say they have benefited financially from Troy University and its growth. In the past 5 years Troy athletics has grown dramatically with new programs and facilities. Troy University athletic officials say the growth goes hand in hand with the support from both students, fans, and City leaders. Troy City officials say they are hoping for even more to the university and city.  
:55 VO/SOT

11/4/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**TROLLY PRESSER**

A new trolley route will soon be up and running in Montgomery to help boost the city's nightlife. Mayor Todd Strange says the new route is a 30 minute ride with 4 stops including 1 at the Renaissance Hotel, 2 in Cloverdale and 1 at Maxwell Air Force Base. Mayor Strange hopes this will boost spending in those areas while providing safe transportation for residents and tourists during peak entertainment times. It begins tomorrow and will run Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights from 6:30 until 11:30.  
:30 VO

11/16/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**SPARKS ENERGY**

Alabama's Department of Agriculture is looking for a new way to save money by going green. Agriculture Commissioner Ron Sparks says eleven vehicles will take part in a pilot program using alternative fuel (They will now use propane). This is the first state agency that has completed the vehicle conversion process. Alabama has also been given a \$1/2 million dollar loan from the US Department of Agriculture to promote cleaner energy use in businesses throughout the state.

:30 VO

11/20/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**UNEMPLOYMENT**

Alabama's unemployment rate continues to climb and is now at 10.9%, which means nearly ¼ million people are out of work. This is the highest rate in 25 years, and State officials say almost 12,000 Alabamians are eligible for federal extension benefits. To apply go to "dir.-alabama.gov", or call 1-800-752-7389. Wilcox county leads the state with 25.1% unemployment; Dallas county is at 21.9%; and Conecuh county's rate is 20.5%.

:35 VO GFRX

11/20/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**NEW ERA UPDATE**

Officials at New Era Cap Company in Marengo County say they're hoping to avoid closure. The company makes headwear for Major League Baseball, and is cutting its US operations down to one plant which means either the plant in Demopolis or a plant in New York would be closed. Officials at the Demopolis plant say employees and the community are working hard to keep New Era open.

:45 VO

11/25/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**AREA HOTELS**

Football fans are filling up downtown Montgomery hotels in the countdown to the Turkey Day Classic and the Iron Bowl. CW News Reporter Anjuli Lohn has the Top Story on "The CW First News at Nine". The Turkey Day Classic and the Iron Bowl has a huge economic impact on the city. Hundreds of fans are out here visiting restaurants and businesses in downtown Montgomery. Mayor Todd Strange estimates each visitor brings in close to \$170 a day.

1:55 LL PKG

12/2/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**MERCEDES**

Alabama's Mercedes plant is adding around 1,000 new jobs. The plant is in Vance in Tuscaloosa County. The company has announced plans to move production of the C-Class sedan to the plant. Mercedes will get around \$100-million in incentives for the expansion. The company says they see this as a big sign of growth in the auto industry. It's scheduled to start in 2013.

:25 VO

12/18/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**PIKE COUNTY JOBS**

A \$1.4 million state grant is helping a technology company move to Troy with 300 jobs. The grant will benefit CGI Technologies and Solution. C-G-I, a word wide information technology firm that provides software development plans to make a \$10 million investment in Troy.

:30 WIPE SWISH VO

**WBMM-TV LOCAL NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST:**  
**RECREATION/LIFESTYLES**

10/5/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**MARRIED 8 DECADES**

A couple is proving some marriages can last forever. Paul and Georgia Bradley are celebrating 80 years of marriage, an extra-rare milestone. They met in the 1920s when Paul worked for the telegraph office and followed Georgia to find out where she worked. Now 98 years old, the Bradleys have spent almost their entire lives by each other's side. The happy couple says each day is still an adventure full of romance and humor, and they're still in love after all these years.

:30 VO

10/8/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**KID RALLY**

Several Alabamians are "stepping up" in Montgomery to raise awareness of children in need. Parents, children and community leaders gathered for the "step up for children rally" sponsored by the group, VOICES for Alabama's children. Organizers say it's important to draw attention to Children living in poverty, children without health insurance and those who have been abused or neglected. For more information about VOICES for Alabama's children you can visit the website "alavoices.org."

:30 VO

10/8/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**POSITIVELY ALABAMA**

It's not a singing lesson but it is a lesson in how take yourself to a far away world. These children are getting a hands on lesson in the world of make believe. These actors belong to the new Intern Acting Company at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. The Story of Ferdinand the Bull is the new production they will perform this season. Along with learning the story of Ferdinand, the children also made paper flowers which will in turn, be used in the actual production at ASF. By showing these eager learners something they may not be exposed to on a daily basis, who knows, it might spark something creative inside of them. And that's Positively Alabama.

1:25 PKG

10/15/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**AUBURN**

Auburn running back Ben Tate has already blown past last year's numbers. The senior is leading the Southeastern Conference with 724 yards rushing and ranks eighth nationally going into Saturday's game with Kentucky. He had 664 yards last year. Tate says last season's struggles motivated him during the offseason. He ran for a career-high 184 yards at Arkansas and scored two touchdowns during an aborted comeback attempt in the third quarter.

:24 VO

11/12/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**PA IT DON'T MATTER**

Welcome to the "It Don't Matter Family Restaurant!" in Highland Home where's there's more to a meal than just the food. Friendly, hometown service is served up daily, it's something its owner Pete Hayes believes is a key ingredient to the restaurant's success. When it comes to the menu Pete believes in fresh ingredients and homemade recipes and his customers seem to agree. And while all those answers are true owner Pete Hayes has the real reason behind the odd name. But there's no question about it, the It Don't Matter Family Restaurant really does matter because it's Positively Alabama.

1:45 PKG

11/16/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**PALIN ALABAMA**

Former Republican Vice Presidential Nominee Sarah Palin is coming to Alabama to promote her new book "going Rogue". She will be at a Books-a-Million store in Birmingham next Monday. If you would like to meet her, you have to pick up a number at the store on Sunday. Palin's book comes out tomorrow. It details her years in Alaska and gives her views on the 2008 Presidential race.

:30 VO

11/18/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**TUSKEGEE WIPE VO**

Elizabeth City State University and Tuskegee University have been selected to participate in the 11th Pioneer Bowl on Saturday, December 5, 2009 in Columbia, SC, at 2:00 P.M. Elizabeth City finished the season with a 7-3 overall record, and the Tuskegee University Golden Tigers, won their 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive SIAC Championship, while holding an 8-2 overall record with one regular season game remaining. The Pioneer Bowl is the only NCAA sanctioned bowl game involving HBCU athletic conferences. The game features teams from the SIAC and the CIAA.

:31 WIPE VO



11/25/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**SELMA FOOD KITCHEN**

Dallas County has one the highest unemployment rates in the state. That's why several groups are busy preparing to feed hundreds of needy people on Thanksgiving. Bosco Food Kitchen, Safe Haven Center and Water Avenue Baptist Church are all putting the finishing touches on their Thanksgiving Day menus today. Each group is providing free Thanksgiving dinners tomorrow to anyone who wants to come and eat. They are planning to serve more than 500 people.

:30 VO

11/30/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**STATE CHRISTMAS TREE**

The state of Alabama's Christmas tree has arrived in Montgomery. It is a 40 foot tall Eastern Red Cedar which will be decorated with thousands of lights, and will take center stage at the state's annual tree lighting ceremony Friday afternoon. The ceremony will start at 5:15 on the front steps of the capitol with a parade down Dexter Avenue starting shortly afterward.

:30 VO

12/4/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**SEC GAME**

We're less than 24 hours away from what is maybe the most anticipated college football game of the season. #2 Alabama is taking on #1 Florida in the SEC Championship Game. Dee Jackson is in Atlanta for the matchup, and joins us now with the latest on the two teams' last minute preparations.

1:30 LL PKG

12/8/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**OPPORTUNITY HOUSE**

CW First news at 9 is covering Opp where an abused women's shelter needs your help. The "Opportunity House" has helped abused women and children for 15 years and they say it's time for their home to have a makeover. Organizers plan to start by renovating the kitchen and bathrooms with new cabinets, appliances and showers. And they're asking for donations to help their cause.

:40 VO/SOT

12/14/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**#22 JERSEY**

Alabama's star running back, Mark Ingram seems to be unstoppable. After winning the university's first Heisman trophy, his jerseys are flying off store shelves. CW First News at 9's Reporter Jenna Deery has more.

1:45 PKG

12/16/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**WILCOX CHRISTMAS**

Families suffering because of the bad economy are getting a helping hand for Christmas. Local non-profits groups, civic organizations, and churches are working together to provide Christmas presents for needy children this Christmas. Wilcox County has the highest unemployment in the state, at more than 25%.

:55 VO/SOT

1/31/09 – 9-9:30 P.M.

**AUBURN**

When Auburn meets Northwestern in the 2010 Outback Bowl Friday, it will not only be the first college football game of the New Year, but also the first game between the two programs in history. It will be Auburn's third trip to the Tampa-based bowl, but the first in 14 years. Auburn will be playing in its 35th bowl game, which is the 16th-highest total of any FBS school. Auburn has a 19-13-2 record in its previous 34 bowl games, and has played in a bowl game in 21 of the last 28 years.

:30 VO

**WBMM-TV**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT CAMPAIGN**  
**Fourth Quarter, 2009**

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During the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2009, WNCF-TV and WBMM-TV produced and aired the public service announcements that are described below:

**CUPS FOR THE CROSS:**

**:30**

Both stations aired these announcements that informed the viewers of the need American Red Cross has for donations. The station(s) also have developed a program called “Cups for the Cross”. We had coffee cups made with the stations’ logos and asked people in our viewing audience to purchase the cups. The entire proceeds for the sale of the cups go to the Central Alabama Chapter of the American Red Cross. The announcement aired several times during the quarter.

**WOMEN’S NIGHT OUT**

**:30**

Women’s Night Out promoted an event the stations held to promote women’s health. The Cancer Wellness Foundation and the Joy To Life Foundation as well as several other non-profit groups were in attendance.

**RAY JOHNSTON BAND**

**:30**

The station produced and aired this spot about the “Ray Johnston Band” concert that benefitted Montgomery Wellness Foundation and the Dallas Heroes foundation.

## **HALLOWEEN FUNDRAISER**

**:30**

This annual fundraiser is held each year to raise money for the local charity, Kid One Transport that provides transportation for children that are ill (and their parents) to anywhere that they need to go in the State free of charge.

**WBMM-TV**  
**GENERAL ISSUE PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**Fourth Quarter, 2009**

## **GENERAL ISSUE PSAs:**

Following are some of the general issue public service announcements that aired on WBMM-TV Sunday - Saturday, Sign On - Sign Off during the Fourth Quarter of 2009.

<b>Name of PSA:</b>	<b>Alabama State Bar Association</b>
<b>Name of Organization:</b>	Alabama Broadcasters Association
<b>Description of PSA:</b>	"Advance Directive (Living Wills) – Lifeplan is a statewide campaign to encourage people to discuss health care wishes with their families and document them now, rather than during a crisis. This 30 seconds announcement aired 9 times in the month of October; 6 in November; 5 in December.

<b>Name of PSA:</b>	<b>Alabama State Bar Association</b>
<b>Name of Organization:</b>	Alabama Broadcasters Association
<b>Description of PSA:</b>	The national pro bono celebration coordinated by the American Bar Association is scheduled for October 25 – 31, 2009 and includes every state bar association in the nation. The Alabama State Bar Association is a coordinated statewide effort to illustrate the difference pro bono lawyers make to the state, its system of justice, its communities and, most of all, to the clients they service. 30 seconds long, it aired 1 time in October.

<b>Name of PSA:</b>	<b>Alabama Army National Guard</b>
<b>Name of Organization:</b>	Alabama Broadcaster's Association
<b>Description of PSA:</b>	This announcement tells of the opportunities that are available in the Alabama National Guard. It also tells of the services the organization provides to the state and the nation especially during times of war. The :15 aired 6 times in October; 1 in November; 4 in December.

**Name of PSA:** **Alabama Against Cancer**  
**Name of Organization:** Not Provided by Traffic Manager  
**Description of PSA:** Not provided by Traffic Manager. 30 seconds long, it aired 2 times in October; 3 in November.

**Name of PSA:** **Arts Education/Blast Off**  
**Name of Organization:** Ad Council  
**Description of PSA:** The benefits of arts education are well documented and far reaching but many children simply don't get enough on a regular basis. This campaign was created to increase parental involvement in championing arts education both in and out of school. In the ads, the *Little Einsteins* show that the arts are fun as they encourage both children and parents to participate in the arts together. They show by example how the arts promote activity and self-expression while emphasizing teamwork, friendship and exploration. 30 seconds long, it aired 4 times in October (1 in P.T.).

**Name of PSA:** **Be Ready**  
**Name of Organization:** Alabama Broadcasters Association  
**Description of PSA:** Governor Bob Riley and the Alabama EMA have generously agreed to participate in this year's PEP spot. For a second hurricane season, the Governor is encouraging Alabamians to take responsibility for preparing their homes and families and reminding them that our state government has done what it can to prepare to assist in a potential emergency. 30 seconds long, it aired 4 times in October.

**Name of PSA:** **Buy Something**  
**Name of Organization:** City of Montgomery  
**Description of PSA:** This announcement encouraged the public to shop locally to help Montgomery's tax base. It aired 65 times (3 in P.T.) in December.



**Name of PSA:** **Diabetes Management**  
**Name of Organization:** Advertising Council  
**Description of PSA:** There are nearly 24,000,000 children and adults in the U.S. living with diabetes and the population is growing at epidemic proportions. Diabetes can cause serious complications such as heart attack, stroke, adult blindness, nerve damage, amputations and kidney failure. A new case is diagnosed every 20 seconds in the United States, and kills one American every minute. The 30 seconds spot aired 6 times in October; the 60 aired 27 times in October (3 in P.T.); 8 in November.

**Name of PSA:** **Foreclosure Prevention**  
**Name of Organization:** Ad Council  
**Description of PSA:** Every year, 1,000,000,000 families face losing their homes to foreclosure. Because they don't know what to do, they do nothing. If you're in danger of losing your home call 1-888-995-Hope because nothing is worse than doing nothing. This 30 seconds announcement aired 2 times in October; 1 in November.

**Name of PSA:** **Forest Conversation**  
**Name of Organization:** Ad Council  
**Description of PSA:** This announcement encourages the public to take care of the forests in their area, to be mindful and not start forest fires, and even to plant trees. 60, 30, 15, and 10 seconds long, the :60 aired 15 times in October (4 in P.T.); the :15 aired 1 time in October; 4 in November; 4 in December.

**Name of PSA:** **Gift Catalogue**  
**Name of Organization:** American Red Cross  
**Description of PSA:** This 30 seconds announcement promoted giving a gift to the Red Cross in someone's name. It was also promoted on both stations websites. It aired 22 times in the month of November (1 in P.T.); 101 in December (7 in P.T.).

**Name of PSA:** **Halloween Fundraiser**  
**Name of Organization:** Kid One Transport  
**Description of PSA:** This annual fundraiser is held each year to raise money for this local charity. Kid One Transport provides transportation for children that are ill (and their parents) to anywhere they need to go in the State free of charge. 15 seconds long, it aired 29 times in the month of October (7 in P.T.);

**Name of PSA:** **Holiday Market**  
**Name of Organization:** Jr. League of Montgomery  
**Description of PSA:** The Jr. League held their annual Christmas Holiday Market. All proceeds from the sale go to help several charities/organization/families in the River Region area. 30 seconds long, it aired 17 times in October (2 in P.T.).

**Name of PSA:** **Hunger Prevention**  
**Name of Organization:** Ad Council  
**Description of PSA:** Kids love to help out. It fuels their independence and gives them a sense of purpose. By asking kids to become "Hunger Helper," feeding America has the opportunity to mobilize millions of children to lend a hand to a cause they'll want to learn more about – hunger, and help spread the word to others, including their parents. 30 seconds in length, it aired 3 times in October; 2 in November.

**Name of PSA:** **Jewelry Sale**  
**Name of Organization:** Cancer Wellness Foundation  
**Description of PSA:** This announcement informed the public of the annual jewelry sale from which proceeds will benefit both patients and the Wellness Foundation. 30 seconds in length, it aired 1 times in October; 1 in November; 1 in December.

**Name of PSA:** **Lifeline Partner**  
**Name of Organization:** Canaan Land Ministries  
**Description of PSA:** This PSA is asking for donations for the program that takes in convicted felons and young men off of the streets and place them in schools and a positive environment. Local judges also send men to this program. 30 seconds long, it aired 2 times in November; 1 in December.

**Name of PSA:** **Lupus Awareness**  
**Description of PSA:** Ad Council  
**Description of PSA:** Lupus is a serious national health issue that tends to strike young minority women, in their most productive years – often unexpectedly. Although there is no cure, it can be managed if detected early. Target audience: young minority women in their childbearing years (18-44). The :15 aired 3 times in October; 8 in November; 9 in December; the :10 aired 170 times in October (23 in P.T.); 59 in November (8 in P.T.); 206 in December (24 in P.T.).

**Name of PSA:** **Marina Boating Safety**  
**Name of Organization:** Alabama Department of Conservation  
**Description of PSA:** Governor Bob Riley reminds the people to be safe on the water. Be careful and do not drink or use drugs while operating a boat. 30 seconds in length, and aired 1 time in October.

**Name of PSA:** **Mistletoe**  
**Name of Organization:** Alabama Dance Theater  
**Description of PSA:** The Dance Theatre is promoting their annual Christmas event. It is free to the public and people are invited to come out and the performance through November 8<sup>th</sup>. 30 seconds long, it aired 16 times October (5 in P.T.); 2 in November.

**Name of PSA:** **Pet Adoption**  
**Name of Organization:** Ad Council  
**Description of PSA:** This 30 seconds announcement encourages the public to go by their local humane shelter to adopt a pet and save a life. It aired 3 times in the month of October; 1 in November; 1 in December.

**Name of PSA:** **Pink Lure Bass Tournament**  
**Name of Organization:** Joy To Life Foundation  
**Description of PSA:** This PSA promoted the upcoming bass tournament that will benefit the Joy to Life Foundation by donating proceeds to the organization that provided free mammograms to the medically underserved. 1 minute long, it aired 15 times during the month of October (3 in P.T.).

<b>Name of PSA:</b>	<b>Re-Connecting Kids With Nature</b>
Name of Organization:	Ad-Council
Description of PSA:	Primary messaging is aimed at “tweens,” kids age 8-12. Secondary target is parents/caregivers. This announcement encourages children and their caregivers to get out into nature and discover the joy of exploring the amazing world around them. Engender a love for nature in kids by fostering a connection with urban and national forests, ultimately creating a lifelong interest and a legacy of stewardship. The :60 aired 27 times in October (2 in P.T.); 7 in November; 4 in December; the :30 aired 16 times in October (1 in P.T.); 5 in November (1 in P.T.); 2 in December; the :15 aired 2 times in October; 11 in November; 6 in December.

<b>Name of PSA:</b>	<b>The United Way</b>
Name of Organization:	The United Way
Description of PSA:	The local United Way reminded people in the River Regions area give to its annual drive and to donate this time of year, as there are a number of families with children in need at this time. 30 seconds in length, it aired 6 times in November (1 in P.T.); 1 in December.

<b>Name of PSA:</b>	<b>We Don’t Serve Teens</b>
Name of Organization:	Federal Trade Commission
Description of PSA:	This announcement advised parents to know where their children are and what they are doing and it also stressed the importance of not serving alcohol to teens. It encouraged others and businesses to do the same. This 30 seconds spot aired 10 times in November; 4 in December.

<b>Name of PSA:</b>	<b>Zoobilation</b>
Name of Organization:	Montgomery Zoo
Description of PSA:	This annual fundraising event is held each year to raise money for various projects at the Montgomery Zoo. 30 seconds long, it aired 4 times in October.

**Name of PSA:**

**Zoo Boo**

**Name of Organization:**

Montgomery Zoo

**Description of PSA:**

This announcement informed the public of the annual Zoo Boo Halloween event that is taking place starting in October at the Montgomery Zoo. :15 seconds in length, it aired 80 times in the month of October (4 in P.T.).

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**WBMM-TV**  
**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**  
**Fourth Quarter, 2009**

#### **4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER 2009 COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

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The stations held an event called “Women’s Night Out” during October to help promoted women’s health. Several not-for-profit groups were there including The Cancer Wellness Foundation and the Joy To Life Foundation. We ran spots weeks prior to the event and gave each of these non-profits live air time that evening.

We are still participating in the Cups for The Cross Campaign with the American Red Cross. We are running PSAs to promote giving to the American Red Cross. We have designed cups that can be sold and all profits will go to the American Red Cross. The campaign will continue for several more months.

In November, we created and ran spots on both stations to promote the Ray Johnston Band Concert that will benefit the Montgomery Cancer Wellness Foundation and the Dallas Heroes Foundation.

**THE CW PLUS  
PROGRAMS OF PUBLIC INTEREST  
Fourth Quarter, 2009**



# Public Issues Report 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2009

## Public File 2009 – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

### News at

6:01am	7:01	8:01
6:15	7:15	8:15
6:31	7:31	8:31
6:45	7:45	8:45

### October 1

Here's the latest with the nuclear situation in Iran, the US and five other top world powers are meeting right now with Iran in Geneva, demanding it freeze its nuclear activities. And word is, the Washington wouldn't mind having a little one-on-one sit down with Iranian diplomats. The US also wants a UN nuclear watchdog to have full access to Iran's newly revealed Uranium enrichment site. More and more women who have cancer in one breast are opting to remove their other healthy one. That's according to a study published earlier this week in the medical journal, "Cancer." But some experts say there is no evidence to support that removing a healthy breast will increase a woman's chance of survival. Despite that, nearly 5,000 New York women chose to remove a healthy breast during the 11 years of the study. Deaths from breast cancer have dropped more than 2% each year since 1990. Overall, breast cancer death rates are down 30% from 1989. Doctors say we are winning the war with breast cancer because patients are more educated in getting yearly mammograms, and doctors have new tools available for detection.

### October 2

The town that put Saturn on the map is stunned this morning after GM announced the end of the brand earlier this week. Workers at the plant in Springhill, Tennessee hope it doesn't shut down. They built the first Saturn there, but stopped making them in '07 and started making the Chevy Traverse instead. Now, in production of the Traverse is scheduled to move to Michigan next month which could leave their plant idle. I you could stay up for "The Late Show," you missed more than the Top 10 List. David Letterman spilled the beans about someone trying to extort him and his sexual relations with staff members. He said he had to testify in front of a grand jury about a package he received 3 weeks ago from someone demanding two million bucks to keep quiet about his affairs. Cops arrested the person accused of the extortion. No word on when the sex with staffers happened. Michael Jackson's autopsy reveals that Popofol combined with three other sedatives probably killed him. The report also shows Jackson had chronic inflammation in his lungs which affected his breathing, but they are not sure what caused it. Docs also confirmed he had needle marks on his arms and knees. Otherwise, the King of Pop was in good health.

### October 5

And a new study out today in the Journal, "Pediatrics" says more kids have an autism-related disorder. It says 1% of kids, between 3 and 17 years old, is affected. This means, 1 in 100 kids have the disorder, up from 1 in 150 just 6 years ago. Former Federal Reserve Chair Alan Greenspan says the economy will grow more in the third quarter but so will unemployment. He also told ABC's "This Week," while he supports short-term economic relief like extending unemployment benefits. He says it's too soon to even consider a second stimulus package to help boost the economy. Cooler weather this morning in California is giving firefighters some welcome relief as they battle the now 7,500 acre sheep fire in San Bernardino County. But the blaze is still threatening homes and forcing thousands to evacuate. It's only 20% contained. Governor Schwarzenegger has declared a state of emergency.

### October 6

Tough economic times are hitting nearly all industries. But does sex still sell? Apparently not! Many porn companies are cutting back on the lavish parties and many strip clubs are losing customers, too. Dirty magazines sales have also dropped drastically over the past year. But sex catalogs selling toys are still

selling plenty of items. Some peeps say more people are staying home to have their fun. What's the one thing you want in a new house? Size? Extra amenities? A new study shows it's energy efficiency. According to the American Institute of Architects, more people want better insulation to lower heating and cooling costs and water saving devices instead of a game room or workshop. The shift in tastes reflects worries about home values: tighter family budgets and the threat of unemployment. The United Nations has released its list of top countries in the world in which to live. And of the 182 nations, Norway is tops! Presumably based on the balmy climate. Actually, the list is made based on criteria such as life expectancy. Literacy, school enrollment, and gross domestic product per capita. Australia and Iceland came in second and third. The US was 13th, down one spot from last year. The worst place in the world to live? Niger. Followed by second to last, Trenton, New Jersey.

#### October 7

We have some breaking news right now. The Afghan Taliban just released a statement saying they pose no threat to the West but will continue their fight against occupying foreign forces. But as you know, President Obama has said defeating the militants in Afghanistan and Pakistan is a top priority. There will be another big meeting in Chicago today. As US Attorney General, Eric Holder, and Education Secretary, Arne Duncan, talk with leaders, parents and students about the violence there. President Obama decided to send them after 16-year old Derroin Albert was beaten to death last month. At least 47 school-age kids have been killed in homicides in Chicago this year. The Department of Education wants to use \$650 million in stimulus money to help school districts that show they're on the 'cutting edge' of education. This new round of money will go directly to local districts that already have 'cool' programs in the works – or those districts that have new ideas to develop. But, districts must be able to match 20% of the funds through private sector donations, and be able to sustain their programs after the government funding ends.

#### October 8

There is some possible great news to identify women at risk for breast cancer faster than ever before. Canadian researchers say they've developed a hormone testing technique that could eventually be used in a handheld device. The new "lab-on-a-chip" technique analyzes tiny samples of blood and breast tissue. The research team is set to begin a clinical trial, and we should know the results in a few years. While texting and driving is a bad idea, texting while trying to quit smoking might be a good one. A new study has found a program which sense text messages about stop smoking advice doubled the chances of smokers being able to kick the habit for up to a year. If a smoker felt the urge to light up they could text "crave" to the program and get immediate advice on what to do. You can pretty much expect to be delayed when flying. A new report says flight delays are twice as common now and will only get worse. Here's the problem...lots of short trips between big cities and a jacked up air-traffic control system. The Brookings Research Firm also says the average wait time is nearly an hour.

#### October 9

President Obama won the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize. He won a gold medal for "his extraordinary efforts to strengthen International diplomacy and co-operation between peoples." He beat out 205 other candidates. Besides the gold, he gets a diploma and \$1.4 million. He'll get all of his loot December 10th. The Taliban just released a statement condemning the decision to award this year's Nobel Peace Prize to Obama, saying he had "not taken a single step towards peace in Afghanistan." Well, NASA just bombed the moon...to fetch a pail of moon water. Two spacecraft hit the moon at 5,600 miles per hour. One hit a south crater, sending moon dust, six miles into the atmosphere. The second spacecraft analyzed it to see if there's water. We're dialing up a former NASA engineer to find out what its all about. A new study of 98 men who ranged in height from 5'1" to 6'5" suggests that tall men have more attractive partners. The study, which appears in this month's "Evolutionary Psychology" journal, also shoes that taller men are happier and less jealous.

#### October 12

Demands for the "regular" flu shots are soaring causing shortages. Both CVS and Walgreens are reporting some shortages at their "clinics." About 77 million doses of the seasonal vaccine have been shipped to the US which is more than ever before for this time of year. And after a week delay, we know

Michigan, Florida, Ohio, and Delaware as well as other states are receiving the "swine flu" vaccines as we speak. A ten foot long alligator bit off the arm of an elderly golfer as he was trying to retrieve his ball at a course in South Carolina. Wildlife officials managed to capture and kill the alligator, recovering the duffer's arm in hope that it may be re-attached. In response to angry golfers, management of the Country Club says those wanting to play the ritzy course will now only charge a leg... A new study from the "Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration" says that 45% of food service and workers smoke. The study also says that the percentage of the population who smokes goes down as their age goes up. The workplaces with the fewest numbers of smokers? Schools and libraries... Knowledge is power.

#### October 13

California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has officially recognized the state's first openly gay elected official... Harvey Milk. He signed a bill to make every May 22nd Harvey Milk day. Public schools will be encouraged to conduct lessons remembering the life of Milk. Other new laws passed, giving same-sex couples legally married in other states all the rights of marriage in California. Important news for women who had hormone replacement therapy to treat menopause. New research says women whose breasts became tender after having the therapy have almost twice the risk for developing breast cancer. Researchers say the tenderness could be an early indicator, but more research is needed to see if there is a true connection between the two. The numbers guru's are slowly but surely coming around saying the recession is finally over. A new survey found 80% of economists believe we're coming out of the woods...but we still have a long hike because of weak spending and a lot of people are still unemployed. Analysts say don't expect to see a difference until well into next year.

#### October 14

In the largest study yet of people with H1N1, most of those who died from it had underlying conditions like asthma. But, 45% were perfectly healthy. The CDC also just announced children with sickle cell and other blood diseases could be at higher risk. Rush Limbaugh's bid to buy the Saint Louis Rams is already facing one "neigh" from an NFL owner. Indianapolis Colts owner, Jim Irsay, said he "couldn't even consider voting for Rush," during an owner's meeting yesterday. Limbaugh would need at least 24 votes from 32 NFL owners in order to stake a claim in the league. NFL Commissioner, Roger Goodell, is also against the sale. Blondes have more fun and they also spend more time with themselves... in the mirror! A new study from "Goody" hair care finds blondes take up to 72 minutes primping and preening in front of the mirror everyday. That amounts to 22 days a year getting ready! Brunettes on the other hand only spend up to 66 minutes a day in front of the mirror.

#### October 15

Apparently, 4th and 8th graders are having a hard time adding it up. The education department released its latest report card on math scores...and it's nothing to brag about. Secretary Arne Duncan says kids still have a lot of improvement when it comes to math. The highest scores were in Massachusetts, the lowest was DC. The NFL has sacked Rush Limbaugh. That's the word hat's the word from the head of the St. Louis blues...the group trying to buy the Rams. The group says Limbaugh's participation had become a "complication and distraction." Despite Limbaugh's claims he received many e-mails supporting his bid, the group believed his presence would have doomed their chances for the team. An Ohio woman could be charged this morning after posing as a lottery winner at a Burlington Coat Factory store, offering to take everyone on a shopping spree. Things got ugly when customers found out it was all a hoax. The woman's limo driver turned her in after he realized she couldn't foot the bill. She will be checked for mental illness before being charged.

#### October 16

The NAACP in Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana want a white justice of the peace to resign after he denied an interracial couple a marriage license. Keith Bardwell says he's not racist...He's just worried about the children who might be born of the relationship. He also says in his experience, most interracial marriages don't last. The couple went to a different justice of the peace and obtained a license. A six-month old baby was hit by a train...and survived! The mom in Australia was waiting for the train. It was windy and she didn't have the brakes on. The stroller with a six month old rolled off the platform onto the tracks and

was hit by the train. Turns out he only had bumps and bruises. A Colorado 6-year-old is safe and on the ground this morning after his family, cops, and the entire nation thought he was in helium balloon speeding through the sky. It turned out, little falcon was nowhere near the balloon. He was in the attic above his garage, hiding in a cardboard box. But was it all a hoax? That's what some people believe...

#### October 19

The balloon boy's parents will probably face felony charges after Colorado cops say it was all a hoax. They say Richard and Mayumi Heene had been planning for weeks some sort of stunt to gain media attention as they tried to land a reality television show. They could be charged with felony conspiracy, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, and making a false report, as well as other charges. The white Louisiana "justice of the peace" who refused to marry an interracial couple says he's not quittin'! This comes after the Governor, and a State Senator called for Keith Ardwell's resignation. Bardwell claims he is not racist, and stands by his decision not to marry the couple. It'll be a showdown in the Senate as lawmakers comb through their various health care insurance reform bills and try to merge them into one. At odds: the public healthcare option. But they might get a break. Top White House advisers say President Obama won't demand that the final bill include a government-run option even though that's his preference.

#### October 20

We're getting you plugged in to some breaking news out of Switzerland, where about an hour ago, the highest court in the land "denied" Roman Polanski's appeal to be released on bail! The court ruled there's a "high risk" the famed director will escape the country before being extradicted back to the US. Polanski faces sentencing here for having sex with a 13-year old girl more than 30 years ago. As lawmakers try to merge 5 health care bills down to two, reform is getting a push from another direction. People for reform will hold phone bank events in all 50 states today and 100 liberal interest groups are meeting in DC. President Obama is also speaking via video hookup to hundreds of small gatherings nationwide. A lawyer reppin' the balloon boy family says charges in the case could be coming next week. Richard Heene and his wife, Mayumi face several felonies including conspiracy, contributing to the delinquency of a minor and attempting to influence a public servant. If convicted they could spend up to 6 years in prison for each felony charge.

#### October 21

The myth busters will testify before congress, clearings facts and fiction on all things swine flu. Education Secretary, Arne Duncan, Homeland Security Secretary, Janet Napolitano, and Health and Human Services Secretary, Kathleen Sebelius, will also report on if the US is prepared for an outbreak. The CDC now says swine flu patients younger than 25 are the main ones being hospitalized. Now the recession is hitting college tuition. A new report out says tuition and fees went up at four year public colleges by 6.5%. Tuition at private schools went up by just over 4%. Officials say don't let the high cost scare you. Don't forget to apply for grants and federal tax credits. A new report this morning says the Obama administration needs to do more when it comes to biological terrorism. The bi-partisan commission agrees the White House works hard to curb nuclear threats, but says it needs to spend more money and conduct more surveillance when it comes to bioterrorism. The 'O' administration says it is a top priority.

#### October 22

It's full steam ahead for Defense Secretary, Robert Gates, on his decision for Afghanistan. He announced this morning he's moving forward with his recommendations on whether to send more troops. But he didn't say what those recommendations are. Gates plans to spill the beans to president during a NATO defense ministers meeting this week. Cops in Florida and Georgia now say that a girl's body found in a Georgia landfill is that of seven year old Somer Thompson. Thompson disappeared Monday after walking ahead of a group of friends while the children walked home from school. New numbers out today say more Americans plan to keep on working and delay their retirement because the drop in their retirement savings. 65% say they'll work for at least one year longer than they originally thought. Here's why: they don't have confidence in the market after the big drop and say people are living longer and need more savings now.

October 23

The hate crime bill is on President Obama's desk this morning. The law would make an assault on someone based on their sexual orientation a federal crime. But several religious groups are worried it'll be used to criminalize conservative 'speech' on subjects related to homosexuality and abortion. Lawmakers say it's just to prosecute violent acts. Rapper Lil Wayne may need some help from Mrs. Officer. He's expected to head to the big house for a year after "pleading guilty" to weapons charges yesterday. The Grammy award-winning artist, whose real name is Dwayne Carter, will be sentenced in February. Cops found him smokin' pot on the street with a gun on him. Michael Jackson's mom has fired the lawyers helping her to get control of his estate. And there's no word her new one isn't doing so hot either. He already missed a key hearing where the judge gave more power to the men Katherine Jackson is fighting. Jackson says she got rid of the old lawyers because the family wanted a fresh perspective on the case.

October 26

The White House wants you to simmer down...and don't be alarmed with the President declaring the swine flu outbreak a national emergency. The 'O' administration says it's not reacting to any new developments. It'll just be the feds more flexibility. They'll be able to give healthcare facilities permission to set up alternate care sites if h1n1 really gets outta hand. New numbers out today show the current healthcare system wastes between \$500 and \$850 billion dollars a year. Why so much money? The Reuter's Report says 37% of the waste is caused by unnecessary tests and care to protect against malpractice. Other biggies on the list: fraud and redundant paperwork. Wakey, wakey.. Eggs and bakey.. moms, that might be better for the kiddos than some sugary. A new 'captain obvious' survey out today says the kiddie cereals are too high in sugar and too low in fiber. Yale researchers say the cereals have 85% more sugar and 65% less fiber than adult cereals. The sweetest ones: Reese's Puffs, Corn Pops, and Lucky Charms.

October 27

Check out the details on those Visa or Master Card gift cards that you can use anywhere. The National Retail Federation says some charges could drain up to 30% of the value. Some charge up to \$7 just to use, others charge monthly fees. Lawmakers want to ban fees and extend expirations to 5 years by 2010. The Senate's public option with the 'opt out' plan is gaining steam today. Key Democratic Senators are working to get the bill ready for debate in the next few weeks. It would give millions of Americans who not covered at work the option to buy insurance run by the government. States would have until 2014 to decide whether to withdraw from the public program. There's new Halloween safety info out today. "Safe Kids USA" says the little ghost and goblins are "twice as likely" to be hit by a car on Halloween night than any other costume. Researchers say it's kiddos walking alone in the dark, sometimes wearing masks, and dark clothing.

October 28

The CDC this morning says the Feds may have to toss unused doses swine flu vaccine if people can't get vaccinated soon enough. Officials want health providers to vaccinate people ASAP because as the Feds make more vaccine and ship it out, states may have too much left over. First daughters Malia and Sasha didn't wait. They got their vaccinations as soon as it became available to DC kids. If you want to get a glimpse of how you'll look when you get older, just look at your mom! A new study says daughters age like their mothers because they have the same skeletal and cellular make up. Plastic surgeons used facial imaging and 3D modeling and found women sag and their eyes droop just like mom. Well if first they don't succeed, they'll try, try again. The Ares rocket is still on the launch pad this morning scheduled to go up at 8AM. NASA scrapped it yesterday after a cloud rolled in. By the way, this whole thing is part of a \$445 million program to design a spacecraft to replace the space shuttle next year.

October 29

Word is.. Rats love hot-lanta! It was second to New York – for cities having rat problems. Two years ago, Hot-Lanta didn't even crack the top 10. Researchers say it's due to high foreclosure and flooding. Others on the list – Houston, Louisville, and Philly. House leaders will get all of the attention today as they unveil their version of a healthcare bill. It includes a public option that requires people to buy health coverage

and it'll make the rich help pay for it. It could land on the house floor for debate as early as next week. Senators aren't too far behind. Their bill, with an 'opt out' public option clause is coming soon. Costco is set to accept food stamps nationwide. The warehouse wants to open up to more than just bargain-hunting affluent shoppers. Costco plans to accept food stamps at half of its stores by Thanksgiving and go national as soon as it wins regulatory approval in each state.

#### October 30

The economy is stabilizing this morning. But, is still fragile and need nurturing. That's the word from Treasury Secretary, Timothy Ggeithner. The commerce department says the economy jumped 3.5% which was the best quarter growth in two years. But critics say it was only because of the cash-for-clunkers program and the first-time homebuyers tax credit. When it comes to the regular seasonal flu, new research shows when moms-to-be get the regular flu shot, their babies reap the benefits. Doctors say babies were born bigger, healthier, and likely to be premature. Researchers hope these new findings will encourage more pregnant women to get the shot.

#### November 2

President Karzai has won the Afghan election after his opponent Abdullah Abdullah dropped out of the race. Dr Abdullah Abdullah withdrew from the run-off against President Karzai in protest at the government's failure to combat election fraud. Mr Karzai has effectively been handed a second term, which threatens to undermine the legitimacy of the new government. If you've been waiting to get vaccinated for h1n1, this may be your lucky week! The feds are expecting 10 million "more" doses by the end of the week. The "health and human services department" says five drug companies are cranking them out. So far 26.6 million doses have been shipped all over the country. Walmart is already slashing toy prices again this morning to try to dominate the holiday sales. 100 toys are 20-30% cheaper. This is in addition to the "100 toys for 10 bucks" deal launched in September. Some manufacturers are worried shoppers will start to expect lower prices for the toys even after the holidays.

#### November 3

New info on the deadly ground beef recall that has already killed two people. The CDC says the meat, possibly contaminated with E.Coli, was processed from a company in New York. Faribank Farms shipped more than half-a-million pounds up and down the East Coast to Trader Joe's, Shaw's, BJ's wholesale, Giant – and a bunch of other stores. The code to look for is "EST 492." And health officials just released new info from clinical trials on the swine flu vaccine. They say the vaccine is safe for pregnant women and children. They also stress one dose will work for moms-to-be. But kids under 10 need 2 doses. An Aspen man was so desperate to get his cell phone back, he went dumpster diving. The guy was raking leaves when he dropped his phone and accidentally scooped it up in a pile. By the time he realized what happened the leaves were gone. The man went to the dump and kept calling his phone for 30 minutes listening for the ringer while sifting through trash. He eventually found it.

#### November 4

Relief for those who don't get 'paid' sick days may be just around the bend. There's a hearing on capitol hill in a couple of weeks to force employers to pay workers who are told to stay home when they're sick. The emergency law would cover swine flu, or any other infectious disease. There are 50 million Americans who don't get paid sick time. Feeling a little grouchy this morning? It could be a good thing. Reuters just released a survey saying negative people cope better in demanding situations. Researchers say 'happy' people promote creativity, flexibility, and cooperating but can be shallow. Sour pusses this more carefully and pay more attention to details. The Louisiana justice of the peace who refused to marry an interracial couple is calling it quits. Bardwell was facing a federal discrimination suit and says he resigned because he thought he would lose. But, he also said that if he could do it all over again, he would still turn away mixed couples.

#### November 5

The House will take a look at a bill today to give those unemployed and homebuyers some extra relief. Senators approved extending jobless benefits, as well as the homebuyers tax credit. Here's the deal –first time homebuyers will get \$8,000 to buy a home. Repeat buyers will get \$6,500. You have to have a

contract on the new home by the end of next April and close by June 30th. It's win number 27 for the New York Yankees. They beat the Philadelphia Phillies 7-3 last night in the Bronx. Hideki Matsui was named MVP with three home runs and eight RBIs over the series. He's the first Japanese player to get the honor. What would force former Miss California, Carrie Prejean, to drop her lawsuit against pageant officials? A sex tape of course! TMZ IS reporting that once pageant lawyers produced an "extremely graphic" video of Prejean, acting alone...the two sides settled their suits! She was suing for slander, religious discrimination, ec...Pageant officials wanted their money back for her boob job.

#### November 9

The health care bill is on the fast track to the Senate today but it's expected to hit a big speed bump. If approved, insurers can't deny coverage because of pre-existing conditions. And if you can't afford coverage, the Feds will help you pay for it. President Obama said he's "absolutely confident" Senators will get 'er done. And an emergency in Louisiana - as well as the rest of the Gulf Coast this morning - as hurricane Ida heads that way. The coast looks calm now, but everyone is on high alert. In Biloxi, Mississippi, there hasn't been any mandatory evacuations and most businesses like casinos are still open. Army investigators are asking troops and civilians for help as they piece together evidence in the Fort Hood shooting. They say some people who ran to take cover during the shooting may have evidence - like damage to their vehicles or clothes from gunshots. The pieces may help investigators figure out where the bullets were fired.

#### November 10

Now to remembering those lost in the fort hood mass shooting. President Obama and First Lady, Michelle, will be at today's memorial service along with thousands of others. The Obama's will also meet privately with the hurt soldiers and their families. The military says 39-year-old Nidal Malik Hasan killed 13 people and hurt 29. The man who tried to blackmail funny man David Letterman is heading to court today. Cops say CBS New Producer, Joe Halderman, tried to extort \$2 million from Letterman last month. And word is, he ain't coppin' a plea and wants to take the case to trial. And get this, he's already raised \$100,000 for his defense! It looks like Aerosmith frontman Steven Tyler "walked this way" out the door, leaving the rest of the band's career "living on the edge." Lead guitarist, Joe Perry, said yesterday the band is looking for another singer. Tyler shocked the group saying he wants to focus on a solo during his interview with a British rock magazine last week. But here's the thing, if it ain't broke...

#### November 11

One day after the nation mourned those gunned down at Fort Hood, we honor our veterans. Today is Veterans Day. Of course, there will be parades all over the country. New York hosts the largest parade in the country. It'll honor for the first time the marines' famous Navajo code talkers during WWII. Who are you blaming for a lack of swine flu vaccine? A new poll says most Americans are pointing the finger at the drug companies. 62% blamed the drug companies and only 58% blame the Feds. So far only 38 million doses have been made available. Walmart is working overtime to prevent Black Friday tragedies! You may remember, a WalMart worker was trampled to death last year by a crowd of shoppers trying to snag deals. Well this year, the mega-discounter is trying to keep everyone safe by - keeping stores open overnight on Thanksgiving to keep large crowds from gatherine and having local police and workers help direct shoppers.

#### November 12

President Obama wants more options for his Afghan war strategy this morning before he makes up his mind. Hhe wants some ideas on how the US will turn over security to the Afghan government and an exit strategy for troops. He's expected to mull everything over during his nine-day trip to Asia kickin' off today. The White House says he'll make a decision in the next couple of weeks. LAPD is trying to figure out exactly "why" former boxing champ, Mike Tyson, punched the papparazi yesterday at LAX. Tyson's peeps say the photographer attacked him, and his family at the ticket counter. But witnesses say something "else" went down. Cops are checking out the surveillance tapes for answers. Cops in Cleveland continue to search the home where they've already found 11 bodies. They say the stench has returned stronger than ever. They're using bulldozers to clean up the area as they prep for the FBI to come in. They'll also be using thermal imaging cameras around 50 year old Anthony Sowell's home

looking for more bodies. As of now, he's been charged with 5 counts of murder.

#### November 13

New information about the accused Fort Hood shooter. Major Nidal Malik Hasan is paralyzed. His lawyers say it doesn't look like he'll be able to walk in the future. Authorities say Hasan opened fire at a military processing center at Fort Hood last week. He's been charged with 13 counts of murder, but he's not being charged with terrorism because the military doesn't have guidelines for that. The accused peep Tom in the ESPN reporter stalking case will also be in court today. Michael Barrett is accused of secretly video taping Erin Andrews through her hotel room door's peep hole while she traveled for work. He could be charged with felony stalking charges. That'll get him 5 years behind bars. Hair today, suspended tomorrow. An Ohio middle schooler has been "cut" from class because of his hair-cut. Dustin Reader got in-school suspension after cutting a large capital B and stripes hair cut to honor the Cincinnati Bengals. The principal said it was too distracting. He'll be on suspension until he changes his hair. But parents are supporting his new "do."

#### November 16

The Feds are eyeing some prime real estate this morning – and it's not for the lake-front views. The 'O' administration will head to Illinois today to look at a super max facility to house thousands of federal prisoners - including some Gitmo detainees. Right now, the prison in Thomson is pretty empty. But if the Feds move in, it'll bring thousands of new jobs and \$1 billion dollars over the next four years. New information is coming out about how plastic products affect children, specifically infants. Researchers say chemicals in plastics "alter" the brains of baby boys making them "more feminine." Boys exposed to high doses in the womb are "less likely" to play with quote "boy toys" or play rough. If you're not talking about sex, that's probably why researchers say there are so many people waking up with STD's. The top diseases: Chlamydia and Gonorrhea. Researchers say the US has the highest rate of STD's of any developed country.

#### November 17

New advice on when to get a mammogram makes you wonder.. Who should we believe? The Preventive Services Task Force now says we should wait until we turn 50 before getting screened. This is a complete '180' from what the American Cancer Society has said for years... women should start getting them at 40. Here's the other thing, the task force also said self breast-exams don't help. Teen drivers are no better than adults when it comes to texting while driving. A new Pew Research Report says about a third TWD, text while driving – and half of teens admit to talking on their cellies while behind the wheel. So far, 18 states have banned texting while driving and several more are working on it. You could be seeing as many as 30 meteors per hour flying across the sky if you look outside your window tonight. The 'Leonid Meteor Shower' is making its once every 33 years appearance this morning, streaking across the skies of the Americas and Asia. Experts say the best way to see the showers is to get as far away from a city as possible where the sky will appear darker.

#### November 18

Once again, Ford tops the list. This time it's all about safety. The insurance institute for highway safety just released its annual report on the safest new vehicles. Ford received the most picks, with six. GM also got good news. It's Buick Lacrosse was one of the safest 'large' cars. As Sarah Palin's book tour "officially" kicks off today, there is controversy over her Newsweek cover pic. Palin is putting the mag on blast calling this photo "sexist." The picture was originally published in the August issue of "Runners World," for a story about Palin's love of running. Newsweek says the pic was the most interesting photo available. More pirate attacks near Somalia. Somali pirates tried to attack the US flagged Maersk Alabama again this morning, firing automatic guns at the ship just 350 nautical miles east of the Somali coast. But guards aboard the ship fired back and fought them off. No word on if any one was hurt.

#### November 19

It's official, Johnny Depp is a two-timer with his sexy self! The "Pirate of the Caribbean" star is once again People Magazine's "Sexiest Man Alive." He first won back in 2003. The only other Hollywood hunk to win the title a second time are Brad Pitt and George Clooney. Senators already have their weekend planned.



They will vote Saturday on whether to begin debates on their just-released health care bill. Here's the break down. It'll cost \$849 billion dollars over 10 years. You won't be denied coverage because of preexisting conditions. Everyone will have to get coverage or pay a fee. The 'infamous' public option is in, with states being able to opt out. It looks like 'more' of you will be going over the river and through the woods to grandma's house in your car. AAA says more people will be driving this Thanksgiving than flying. No duh, it's too expensive! Most will be on the road the day before Turkey Day... and it could be messy. Forecasters are already predicting rain and bad weather for the holiday.

11/20/09

A NEW RECOMMENDATION FROM the AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNECOLOGISTS SAYS WOMEN SHOULD START CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING AT AGE 21, AND MOST DO NOT NEED AN ANNUAL PAP SMEAR. THE NEW GUIDELINES, WHICH AIM TO REDUCE OVER TREATMENT, SAY WOMEN YOUNGER THAN 30 SHOULD GET A PAP ONCE EVERY TWO YEARS AND THOSE 30 AND OVER ONCE EVERY 3 YEARS.

11/23/09

The swine flu pandemic may be hitting a peak here in the u-s, but health officials say prepare for round two. They say flu can actually peak a 'couple of times' during a 'single' season. Coming back after the holidays with a vengeance. But in the meantime, experts are watching the current strain of h1n1 for any signs it may be mutating.

11/24/09

A NEW U-S-A TODAY GALLUP POLL this morning SHOWS WOMEN ARE ANGRY ABOUT the preventative services task force's suggestion to wait until you turn 50 before getting the girls checked. 76 PERCENT OF WOMEN saying 'waiting' puts their lives at risk. 84 PERCENT OF WOMEN AGES 35 TO 49 PLAN TO GET A MAMMOGRAM anyway.

11/25/09

TOYOTA IS RECALLING 2000 to 2003 MODEL YEAR TUNDRA PICK-UP trucks. The glitch... ROAD SALT has been causing SPARE TIRES on the underbelly TO FALL OFF. TOYOTA SUGGESTS storing the spare IN THE BED OF THE TRUCK UNTIL THEY FIGURE OUT a permanent FIX.

11/26/09 As the President prepares his primetime speech to the nation next tuesday on his strategy for afghanistan, the white house says all troops will be out of the country within 8 years. Obama is also set to announce he's sending about 30-thousand more troops as part of a new plan to train afghan security forces. But he won't spill the beans on a specific troop withdrawal timetable. Only saying they won't be there past 20-17.

11/30/09

Ladies, not sure about that guy at the bar who keeps hitting on you? Now there are ways to check up on him. The user punches in as much information as they have on their subject. Results can range from past addresses, real estate ownership and business and professional licenses to bankruptcies, evictions, criminal records and what the company calls "possible relationships." DateCheck offers some less-serious information, too. Its Interests feature trolls for information on educational background, social networking activities and professional history while Compatibility compares the subject's horoscope and astrological sign with the user's.

12/1/09

Today marks the 54th anniversary of rosa parks' refusal to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Mrs. Parks was arrested which sparked a yearlong bus boycott. When parks passed away October 25, 2005 she was given the rare honor of lying in state at the U.S. Capitol.

12/2/09

Ladies a look at why your guy loves you as is...according to Glamour. You don't have to look perfect. You don't have to spend \$ on lingerie. His hobbies don't have to be your hobbies. You don't have to skip dessert.

12/3/09

From funding Afghanistan to voting on healthcare.. Senators are set to vote today on two competing healthcare measures. One, making sure women have access to mammograms and other preventive screenings. Another, amendment on possible spending cuts in Medicare. This comes as a new poll from Reuters says 59 percent of Americans do want a public option included in reform.

12/4/09

It looks like 400 billion medicare bucks will be cut this morning from the senate's health care overhaul bill. But what about that public option? We see the republicans and democrats debating it on the senate floor. But it looks like the Dems are putting in some o-t, secretly discussing it with each other. One compromise. Putting a nonprofit board in charge of the public option instead of the feds.

12/7/09

Don't you love it when you save money? The feds hope to save 200 billion dollars less than they originally thought in big bank bailout bucks. The treasury department says the bailouts are delivering higher returns and it doesn't think it'll use 'all' of the 700 billion in tarp money. Officials say they may be able use the 'left-overs' to create jobs and reduce the deficit.

12/8/09

It looks like the number of people who are getting and dying from cancer is dropping. A new report out says the country is making headway when comes to reducing tobacco use, finding cancer early and treating it more effectively. But the number isn't exactly where health officials want it to be. Almost a million and a half Americans will be diagnosed this year.. A third of them will die.

12/9/09

Good news on the housing market. Word is.. HOME PRICES HAVE finally STABILIZED. That's the word from REAL ESTATE WEBSITE, ZILLOW DOT COM. It also says some markets are starting to steadily bounce back. BUT 21-PERCENT OF HOMEOWNERS STILL HAD MORTGAGES UNDERWATER IN THE THIRD QUARTER.

12/10/09

HAVE IT YOUR WAY AND HAVE IT CHEAP. THAT'S THE THEME FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS LIKE BURGER KING, MCDONALD'S AND TACO BELL ARE ADOPTING TO GET CUSTOMERS BACK next year. McDonalds is 'officially' rollin' out plans today to offer it's breakfast dollar menu nationally. You can expect ONE DOLLAR DOUBLE-CHEESEBURGERS FROM BURGER KING. AND CHEAPER BURRITOS AND VALUE BOXES FROM TACO BELL.

12/11/09

More and more people are 'staying' in their homes. Online marketer, realty trac says foreclosure fell by eight percent last month for the fourth consecutive month. More people are getting their loans modified and others are taking advantage of that extended homebuyer tax credit. 'but'.. Analysts say the market is still above normal foreclosure levels.

12/14/09

BIG NEWS FOR THOSE BATTLING BREAST CANCER. A one-two punch of tUMOR-TARGETING DRUGS HAVE helped patients live longer even if other treatments aren't working. THE DRUGS HER-CEP-TIN AND TIE-CURB BLOCK A PROTEIN FOUND IN ABOUT 25-percent OF ALL BREAST CANCERS. DOCS THINK IT COULD be even more beneficial for patients IN EARLY STAGES OF CANCER.

12/15/09

Kids are just saying "yes" to drugs. A new 'national institute on drug abuse' study shows smokin' weed and poppin' prescription pills are "in." Smoking regular cigs, binge drinking and using meth is "out." Some officials say the national debate over medical marijuana is partly to blame because kids think it's safe.

12/16/09

6 easy ways to amp your bedroom behavior, from yahoo shine! 1) Power walk. 2) Firm tummy = better orgasm. 3) Don't "think" during sex. 4) Be vocal. 5) Use your "scent-ibility". 6) Must go to our website to see.

12/17/09

A major medical breakthrough in cancer research. Scientist say they've mapped the genetic codes of lung and skin cancer. It's the first time that nearly all the mutations of cancers have been revealed. Bottom line.. This could lead to scientists developing new drugs to target specific mutations.

12/18/09

The heart of the country is costing big time. The American heart association says HEART DISEASE AND STROKE WILL COST THE U-S 503 BILLION DOLLARS NEXT YEAR. THAT'S UP 6 PERCENT. And officials say it COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED IN MANY CASES if more people lost weight, eat better and exercise. HEART DISEASE KILLS more men and women than anything else.

12/21/09

RESEARCHERS WERE STUDYING THE EFFECTS OF A TOXIN IN PRODUCING HANGOVERS THE NEXT DAY. PARTICIPANTS WERE ASKED TO DRINK BOURBON OR VODKA MIXED WITH COLA THEN ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS AND PERFORM A TASK. THE RESULTS? BOURBON MADE PEOPLE FEEL WORSE THAN VODKA.

12/22/09

The transportation department just set up new rules to let passengers get off the plane if they're stuck on the tarmac for three hours. Airlines are also required to provide food and water, and keep the bathrooms working if you're stuck for 'two' hours. The new rules kick in next spring. Safety and security reasons are the only exceptions.

12/23/09

The national association of realtors just announced existing home sales went up almost seven and a half percent last month. Jumping to the highest level in almost three years. They hope the news will lift your spirits and encourage people to spend more in 20-10.

12/31/09

BAD NEWS FOR THOSE SUFFERING FROM LOWER BACK PAIN. A NEW STUDY FROM KANSAS UNIVERSITY SAYS WHILE THE PORTABLE "TENS" UNIT "DOES" HELP WITH DIABETIC NERVE PAIN, IT DOES NOTHING FOR CHRONIC LOWER BACK. THE DEVICE ELECTRICALLY STIMULATES THE NERVES IN THE BACK WHICH DOCTORS had THOUGHT BLOCKED PAIN SIGNALS FROM GETTING THROUGH TO THE BRAIN. RESEARCHERS SUGGEST ANYONE USING THE DEVICE TO again CONSULT THEIR DOCTOR.

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