

The following represent some of the key issues facing the broadcast area of KIDK during the current filing period. They are referenced on the accompanying programming summaries.

Unless otherwise noted, all programs aired as part of EYEWITNESS News at 5:30 p.m. and/or 10 p.m.

**A) EDUCATION:** Issues relating to public school and university education in our community.

**CROSSING ZONE SAFETY**

10-3

2:15

Discovery Elementary school administrators are voicing concern about the safety of crosswalks. One crossing guard said she has personally been nearly hit by cars at least three times, sometimes while kids were right behind her. She said most of the close calls are in morning hours when sunlight blinds drivers. Officials hope drivers will learn to slow down and use caution around school zones, reminding them that saving a few seconds on the drive might cost a child's life.

**TEMPLE VIEW STEM**

10-8

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Temple View Elementary students challenged themselves to design and build an arcade game out of cardboard. The school is working to be accredited to add a STEM curriculum to its learning program. Participating students explained how they came up with their ideas and brought them to life. The school will learn on November 2 whether they will be accredited.

**BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL**

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2:00

Lincoln Elementary School in Rexburg was one of two in Idaho to win national honors for academic achievement. Administrators credited a team effort that involved teachers, students, and parents working together. As a result, the school has the highest level of teacher tenure the school has ever seen. Students say they work with each other too and won't tolerate gossip or fighting. The school is also closing achievement gaps between minority students and others.

## **BULLYING**

11-29

2:00

The general problem has not gone away, but the methods and treatments have changed. The most familiar attacks are physical and verbal, but now, the most common problem is social media. School resource officers said students now can't catch a break, even at home. Bullying has now been shown to have a significant mental health impact and increases suicidal thoughts in children and teens. Boys are most likely to be affected as they look for a way to escape the bullying behavior. Resource officers can now issue citations to bullies, similar to a speeding ticket. The effect is a warning that puts the person under watch for bad behavior.

**B) HEALTH/ENVIRONMENT:** Issues related to our environment and the health of our community.

## **SHAKE OUT**

10-18

3:30

As part of a national earthquake preparedness drill, local elementary schools took part in Shake Out Day. Students learned to take cover under desks, practicing what they would do in case of an earthquake. As part of the exercise, students formed lines and followed teachers out of the building to a safe area. Educators said the drills were important because of the natural hazards that face the region.

## **IDAHO FALLS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL**

10-24

2:16

After dedicating a 302-space parking garage, a group of local physicians announced plans for a new Idaho Falls Community Hospital adjacent the Mountain View Hospital building. The 88-bed hospital will serve a variety of health care needs with a variety of specialists. Mayor Rebecca Casper said she hoped it would reduce the number of people forced to travel for specialized medical care. Although separate, the new facility will collaborate with nearby Mountain View. The hospital expects to bring in 300 new doctors and more than 200 new nurses. It is expected to open late next year.

## **CBD CONTROVERSY**

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## **TRANSGENDER SURGERY**

12-18

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Taxpayers are voicing objection after a former Pocatello man, now an Idaho Department of Correction inmate, has won his legal case. The victory will force the state to pay for his gender reassignment surgery. But, a local man said he had become a sexual slave to the inmate when they met years ago and suffered abuse at his hand. He, too, believes the state has no business rewarding him with a procedure many other worthy people cannot afford.

**C) GOVERNMENT/POLITICS:** Issues facing local government including taxation and politics.

## **PROPOSITION TWO**

10-3

2:30

Idaho voters will decide whether to extend Medicaid coverage for those in the Obamacare "gap" who can't afford health insurance coverage. They earn too much to qualify for assistance and not enough to get help. There are more than 62,000 Idahoans who fall into that gap. Opponents claim that if its expanded to single adults who can work, the fund won't have enough funding to benefit the people it was originally intended to help.

## **BLACKFOOT POOL**

10-23

2:10

Voters in Blackfoot will decide the fate of \$3.9 million bond issue in the November general election that would pay for updated equipment at the Blackfoot swimming pool. After an on-again, off-again fate, the Blackfoot City Council said the pool would either be repaired or shut down based on the outcome of the vote.

Supporters say upgrades are a way of "paying it forward" to a next generation. The pool will provide an open swim day Saturday, November 3. According to city officials, it will either be a day of thanks to the community or a good-bye party.

## **ELECTION COVERAGE**

11-6

9PM TO 9:30 PM

10:00 PM TO 11 PM

Election coverage focused on everything from local school levy issues to the statewide and federal candidates. That coverage included ongoing live reports from reporters in Boise embedded with both Republican and Democratic leaders. Local commentators focused on statewide initiatives and gubernatorial candidates.

## **IMMIGRATION POLICY**

11-28

2:00

As a "caravan" of Central American refugees arrived at the Mexico/US border, questions arose over the process used to attain American citizenship. Immigration attorneys said each step towards citizenship is a lengthy process that requires an analysis and a fee. Someone with immediate family in the US can allow that person to initiate the process. Even so, much depends on the country-of-origin. Those without immediate family in the states could find the process nearly impossible.

## **SCHOOLS AS POLLING PLACES**

12-13

2:44

Members of the Pocatello school board advised the Bannock County Commission, they do not want schools to be used as polling places. The board believes the situation puts students at undue risk. The county believes the schools make ideal polling places because they are located in neighborhoods. Elections officials said that is not a simple matter and it would be difficult to make sure voters in a common area are given the proper ballots. In resolution, a county commissioner will head up a committee to look at possible long-term solutions.

**D) ECONOMY:** Tracking trends affecting our community's business base as well as the rise and fall of industry in the community.

### **DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT**

10-2

2:20

Idaho Falls' Downtown Development organization has received a nearly \$1 million grant from the Idaho Falls Redevelopment Agency to continue downtown revitalization projects. The work will include a new streetscape along Broadway from Memorial Drive to Yellowstone. It will include fixing curbs, gutters, and sidewalks, replanting trees, and working on irrigation systems. The final project will be purchase of parking meters for off-street parking lots.

### **ABERDEEN: SURVIVOR**

10-10

2:00

Aberdeen lost hundreds of jobs when the Simplot plant closed four years ago. The town's leaders have made efforts to bring new industry to town, but the loss of 300 jobs still carries impacts. The city's only remaining convenience store closed this week. Still, remaining business owners are optimistic that new business arrivals will help turn the corner. And, they hope that their continued support of each other, will help the community survive.

### **HOUSING SHORTAGE**

10-30

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Idaho is now considered one of the fastest growing states in the nation. And, with that, realtors said it is becoming harder for newcomers to find affordable housing. Pocatello is launching several major commercial developments expected to expand over the next 10 to 20 years. But, the number of available homes is dwindling. The situation has created a sellers' market. City officials were concerned that those conditions prompted some to give up coming to the area.

## **POCATELLO DEVELOPMENT**

11-1

1:40

The city of Pocatello met with the Pocatello Development Authority to discuss the prospect of a tax increment financing plan for the Northgate Development project. The concept allows the developer to defer property taxes during its initial development phase on the premise that new development on undeveloped property will ultimately create higher tax revenues. The proposal won tentative approval and is now moving through the legal adoption phase.

## **Women in Business**

11-27

2:00

New statistics indicate Idaho has the 2nd largest number of women who own their own businesses than the other 50 states. At the same time, the state has one of the lowest percentages of women in the general population. Most of the businesses are small, one-person businesses, but several are larger, highly successful enterprises. One of them is an Idaho Falls boutique and confectioner shop which began with a woman and her daughter and is now one of the community's successful small businesses.

**E) LAW ENFORCEMENT:** Tracking trends in neighborhood crime and the legal progress of criminal cases.

## **OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING**

11-26

1:25

The Power County Sheriff's Office is leading an investigation into an officer involved shooting, involving a Bannock County Sheriff's deputy and a 16-year-old boy. The Sheriff's Office say an officer shot the boy after he ran away from a police pursuit. A group of protestors gathered to voice their concerns about the incident. They said they were thankful for law enforcement, but complained about the use of guns. The boy's attorney said the family would not have any comment on the issue at this time.

## **MONTANA FUGITIVES**

12-10

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## **COLD WATER SAFETY**

12-12

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The Bonneville County Sheriff's Office is advising people to be cautious around waterways. While areas may appear to be covered with solid ice, that is often not the case. Ice should be at least 4 inches thick before it's safe to walk on and 8 to 10 inches thick to hold a small vehicle. The type of ice can also make a difference. Ice that appears to be foggy or smoky may have several different freezing points and be unsafe. Although the advice is grim, should you fall in, try to drape your arms over the surface ice. If it freezes your arms, it'll help keep your head above water.

## **ST. ANTHONY FIRE VICTIMS**

12-13

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A St. Anthony family lost all of their possessions when the mobile home they had just purchased caught fire. The couple was out of the home when the fire started. It killed their pet dogs. Hurrying home, the couple blew out two car tires and had to wait for family to bring them to St. Anthony. Neighbors have come forward with donations and they are living in another mobile home made available by their landlord.

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