

CHANNEL 32 MONTGOMERY, LLC

WNCF-TV

FOURTH QUARTER 2014 ISSUES/PROGRAMS REPORT

OCTOBER 1, 2014 - DECEMBER 31, 2014

FILED: JANUARY 10, 2015

WNCF
PROGRAMS
Fourth Quarter, 2014

WNCF-TV LOCAL PROGRAMS

ALABAMA NEWS NETWORK

MONDAY – FRIDAY; 5:00-7:00 A.M.

MONDAY – FRIDAY; 5:30-6:00 P.M.

MONDAY – FRIDAY; 10-10:35 P.M.

SATURDAY; 6:00-6:30 P.M.

10-10:30 P.M.

SUNDAY; 5:30-6:00 P.M.

10-10:30 P.M.

Alabama News Network, the station's local news programs air at the times listed Above. "Alabama News Network is Everywhere" is the station's slogan. There are working newsrooms – in Montgomery, West Alabama, South Alabama, and Troy. When news breaks in the West Alabama Newsroom, we are must faster in getting to the scene with live coverage; during hurricane season, we can cover dangerous conditions more easily by having the South Alabama newsroom with its live capabilities. When news happens in Troy, we have a one hour head start on the competition. They're on the road while we're on the air. Crews live in these areas; they know the people and the issues and can provide live coverage when news breaks 24 hours a day. Alabama News This Morning starts off the day's coverage with news that happened over night, and a look at stories in the making; the 5:30P; 10P; and weekend newscasts on Saturday at 6P and 10P; Sunday at 5:30P and 10P consist of late breaking news, sports and weather. Our viewers are given up-to-the minute news coverage as well as recaps of the day's top stories. Issues that are of concern to every sector of our society are featured each day in each newscast – government, education, economy, and health are given the same emphasis as crime, recreation, etc. Anchors for Alabama News Network This Morning at 5 are Tim Lennox, Olivia Deas and Elissia Wilson; Anchors for Alabama News Network at 5:30 are: Jeff Sanders, Ellis Eskew, Ashley McDonald, and Mo Carter; Anchors for Alabama News Network at 10 are Stefanie Hicks, Darryl Hood, Ashley McDonald, and Mo Carter; Anchors for Alabama News Network Saturday at 6P and 10P, and Sunday at 5:30P and 10P are Brittany Bivins; Kirk Nawrotzky, and Ryan Stinnett/Mike Doyle.

ALABAMA NEWS NETWORK NEWSBRIEFS

7:25 A.M.

8:25 A.M.

These 5 minute newsbriefs give viewers the latest local as well as national news information. Morning anchor Tim Lennox is the host.

WNCF-TV PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMMING

YOUR COMMUNITY THIS WEEK

SUNDAY

9:00-9:30 A.M.

This 30 minute weekly locally produced public affairs program with Tim Lennox gives WNCF-TV a great opportunity to explore the issues one on one with the people who are making the news. The show covers significant community issues; crime, health, government, education, recreation, lifestyles, community, and tracks and gives exposure to economic development (including employment and industrial development). The program actively interviews city and state officials in an effort to keep track of problem solving on their levels. Guests who represent various segments of the community are featured as well.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MONDAY

5:00-7:00 A.M.

This announcement tells the viewers of upcoming events in the River Regions area – whether it is religion, entertainment, sports, self-help, or education, it is publicized during these announcements. The station's calendar airs each Monday during the morning news program "Alabama News Network This Morning". News Anchor Jamie Langley updates the public on what is going on in the River Regions area.

ISSUES/PROGRAMS REPORT

4th QUARTER, 2014

JANUARY 10TH, 2015

1. CRIME

2. GOVERNMENT

3. HEALTH

4. EDUCATION

5. ECONOMY/JOB/INDUSTRY

**6. COMMUNITY/RECREATION/
LIFESTYLES**

WNCF PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM
“YOUR COMMUNITY THIS WEEK”
Fourth Quarter, 2014

WNCN-TV PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMMING

YOUR COMMUNITY THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 5, 2014

9:00-9:30 A.M.

Host: Tim Lennox

Topic: Extremes of Living from Children to Seniors – Jackie Buck, Montgomery Area Council on Aging - Aging in the 3 – 4 counties in our area was discussed. The number of seniors is larger, is getting much larger, and Ms. Buck says it will only grow in the future. Some of Meals on Wheels clients are over 100; in fact they 25 of them are over 100 and more than 80% are over 80. Their mission is to make sure the seniors have other things besides food – activities, volunteer opportunities, etc. She runs the Archibald Center, and they have 280 members who pay a minimum amount of \$35 per year. They have to be 55+ years old to join and they do all types of activities – line dancing, exercise classes, computer classes, art, trips, etc. She also discussed the dangers of those over 55, such as isolation. They have monthly seminars on various topics that are of interest to seniors such as diabetes, elder laws, health care, etc. They have monthly luncheons. Most of the seniors are concerned about the time when they will have to leave their homes to live elsewhere. The agency checks on their seniors daily. They deliver 341 meals every day; 5 days each week to their clients. There is another 370 people on a waiting list that is outside of the routes now being served. Because churches, businesses, and restaurants donate food to them, they have a frozen meal program and can give this food to those on the waiting list. They have 35 routes and Hyundai have donated a large sum of money for them to add another route. RSVP is federally funded for 55+, and they have over 1,300 RSVP volunteers in six counties – professionals, police, non-profits, Hospice, etc. Seniors in their 70s, 80s, and beyond are taught computer classes to keep them up with technology. They have a special event coming up, on October 15 at The Capital City Club. “Seniors of Achievement” will honor 10 seniors. On November 16 there will be an International Tasting Event, and they will take four trips next year. In June they will go to South Dakota; there will be a family trip in July to Costa Rica; and they will be going to London in October. The Archibald Center is available for renters to hold events. It is 4,600 square feet, and seats 150. Information can be gotten on-line, and they send out newsletters to those who want them. They would love to have younger members join them.

:15 Minutes

Lifestyles/Community

Topic: Extremes of Living from Children to Seniors – Kevin King, Co-Founder, Common Ground Ministries – Mr. King said Common Ground is all about transforming the community by investing in our urban youth. He is the Mentor Co-coordinator and places youth with different mentors in the city. The mentoring is one-on-one and they place the children with people who they know, and people they know have a heart for children. They have a data base with potential volunteers that they train. Common Ground is a Christian based organization, and there is a Christian component. They believe that the Gospel impacts everything about life – education, economic stability, etc., and that God has a say about everything in your life. Common Ground is near Gibbs village Housing Project, and most of the children come from there. The directors live in, and are a part of the neighborhood. They have a summer resident mission program where they recruit college students to come in and help with development of our youth. They are only located in Montgomery. He said a missionary takes care of people. He said that they go into the community to serve, to help the people they do it together, there is a mutual contribution. The community is taught and encouraged to help those in the community. Common Ground goes in with the gifts God has gifted them; with the skill set God has gifted them, and work together with the community. It takes a while for them to earn the trust of the parents, but they come around. “Seeds of Hope” is a sustainable garden that the kids started and maintains. They partnered with Eat South, who come over and teach the kids to cultivate and harvest. They sold a lot of the vegetable that the children grew, and the proceeds go back into the program. Viewers were asked to visit commonground.org for more information on the

:15 Minutes

Community

Sunday, October 12, 2014

9:00-9:30 A.M.

Host: Tim Lennox

Topic: Higher Education – Greg Fitch, Executive Director of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education - Mr. Fitch discussed the two year college system, and said that Alabama takes pride in the system and reaches out to communities all over the state. Some of the students enrolled are pointed directly to business and industry needs and almost all of them are guaranteed jobs in the future. They also talked about post secondary 2 year colleges, and the states that have schools with 2 year Bachelor programs. Alabama doesn't have any yet, but Florida does. Alabama has reverse degree options to move from a 2 year community college to a 4 year college degree. Mr. Fitch spoke about high schoolers earning college credit while in high school; dual enrollment plans, and advance placement. He said that the highest number of degrees granted in the state is in general studies, and the students are looking for options to either train somewhere else or move into a four year college system. The majority of nurses are coming out of 2 year colleges with Associate Degrees in Nursing. The two year college is an alternative for those who are not ready for the 4 year college experience. He said colleges are getting more competitive to get high school graduates now with more students attending community colleges (7.7 million). Community College graduates in General Studies, etc., get into our Hyundai and Mercedes plants and can then consider whether to go on to get 4 year degrees. He said the cost of education has gone up, and so much is out of the hands of the colleges and presidents, and so forth. Simply because insurance cost, health cost, retirement cost, employment cost, equipment, supplies, materials are all generated. The cost factor is there and state funding isn't what it used to be. The legacy admission policy, is it unfair, or should it be banned was discussed. It has always been there, and is traditional. It is left up to the University admissions policies. Colleges are responsible for maintaining their admission standards requirements. Funding, donations, and grade inflation was discussed (GPA has gone up a number of points for graduates). He doesn't believe today's kids are smarter because of a lot of things he is seeing on resumes, letters, papers, etc. Also, education loans are not being repaid.

:15 Minutes

Education

Topic: Red Ribbon Week – Tim Baker, Montgomery Public Schools; Regina Walker, River Region United Way – Mr. Baker representing Montgomery Public, and Ms. Walker represented the River Region United Way appeared to talk about all of the exciting things that have been planned in recognition of Red Ribbon Week. They told the viewers what it is – a week to emphasize drug free living; how it got started to memorize a DEA agent who was killed; how it is used to teach kids to make good choices; and how they stress alcohol and drugs prevention. The United Way is involved because they want kids to get off of drugs as well. They came on board because this is a good, safe cause. The Kick off is like a big pep rally. Different activities are planned throughout the week and they hold different theme days. Peer pressure is a factor, and they try to get peer

pressure going in the right way. You have to give kids a reason to say “no”. Some live in environments where they see drug usage and don’t know it’s wrong. Schools talk about drugs throughout the school year during different sessions, with different grade levels, different programs, at different areas. It is also highlighted in health classes. They hold a poster contest each year, and the winning one is chosen for that year’s T-shirt that is worn to the pep rally. This is a way to highlight the children’s’ talent. All schools have guidance counselors, social workers, and behavioral counselors, to help the students when/if they are being bullied. Someone is always there for them, and they also co-op with CrimeStoppers where students can call and report crime or drug use. They are given Wal-Mart gift cards when an arrest is made. 1 bus per school is available to bring students to the pep rally at the Dunn-Oliver Acadome at ASU. There will be between 1,200 – 1,500 fourth and fifth graders in attendance. The students entertain themselves as there will be choirs, dance teams, cheerleaders, etc., there. The Montgomery City Council and The Montgomery County Commission make sure the schools get the funding they need for this event each year.

:15 Minutes

Education/Recreation

Sunday, October 19, 2014

9:00-9:30 A.M.

Host: Tim Lennox

Topic: Cancer Research – Amy Waters, Sr. Representative, Community Engagement, Mid-South Division, American Cancer Society; Christy Smith, Volunteer, American Cancer Society – Ms. Smith said on August 2, 2013 she went through the worst day of her life when she was diagnosed with cancer at the age of 37. She had bi-lateral surgery then went through 16 weeks of chemotherapy, but they beat it, she is now in remission, and she is a survivor. Having her on as a volunteer for the Society is an inspiration to others they see coping with the disease now. They said many years ago she wouldn't have made it – but treatment has come a long way with research, etc. President Nixon declared a war on cancer during his administration, and the American Cancer Society spends more on breast cancer research than it does on any other form of cancer. They focus on early detection and really push mammograms, but they still have problems with people getting checked. Besides skin cancer, it is still the highest form of cancer among women, but the number has dropped 34% from 1990-2010. Mammograms and early detection has really been the key for this – new drugs out there as well. 'still, there is going to be 40,000 women diagnosed with the disease and 232,000 will die from breast cancer this year alone. About 400 men will be diagnosed this year. They talked about conflicting information being released on reports, and how it affected Christy and her children. She hopes they see her as a fighter. They talked about the age when women should start getting mammograms. Her mom, sister, and daughter will have to take it more seriously now. Insurance covers 1 free mammogram per year starting at age 40. They believe that diet, exercise, and lifestyle affect the disease, and women won't get examined most of the time because of lack of education. A lot of strides still need to be made. They talked about the part (if any) geography plays; and said facts and figures can be obtained on cancer.org. On November 1, 2,500 people will participate in the 4th annual Making Strides walk. The Funds will go strictly to breast cancer research, and there is no cost to participate. Viewers are encouraged to form teams for the walk. Christy advised those struggling with the disease not to give up. There are good doctors, and good support groups in Montgomery. Preventive mastectomies were touched upon – they feel it is a personal decision. A lot of research is going on in this area. The organization also provides wigs for people going through treatment.

:15 Minutes

Health

Topic: ROCK & Domestic Violence, Bullying, etc. – Laura Hicks, Montgomery Public Schools, Melanie Beasley, Family Sunshine Center – ROCK stands for Respect Others, Create Kindness and is not aimed at young people specifically, but targets communities because bullying is not just an issue that happens at school – it is a community issue. It happens in families, churches, on playgrounds, in libraries – everywhere. They want to focus on bullying since October is Bullying Prevention and Awareness Month. They want to highlight and focus on the intersection of education and

the community through partnership and awareness – bringing the community together with education so everyone is working together. Bullying starts with 1 act then it escalates. Tell someone when it first happens or when you first see it. Only 20% of bullying is reported, so everyone needs to work together. Bullying becomes a culture, and ROCK is trying to build a kinder culture where people respect each other and treating others with kindness is important. The Family Sunshine Center got involved because they recognize that bullying and domestic violence is like two pieces of the same track. Bullies and perpetrators of domestic violence have the same characteristic. It's about power and control. Without intervention, the bully grows up to bully in their home, in their family, in their work places, in their communities. Domestic Violence is intergenerational. When it's seen and modeled in the home, then you will grow up, perhaps, to have the same kind of behavioral. They discussed why women don't report domestic abuse and that they can do about it, and where they can go for help. There are local shelters that are opened 24/7 to help them become independent of the abuse, etc. Abuse is not always physical; it can be verbal or emotional. They have the ROCK Star Awards (a new program) coming up and will highlight someone working and making a difference in the community. Someone who is a Rock Star – teachers, students, parents, counselors, youth ministers, mentors, community leaders, an association, a group, an individual – anyone who works to draw the community together and celebrate differences and promote unity. Nominations are being accepted now through November 11th. There is a tool kit on their website for education, public and private; there is a page for parents and students on what to do when you are bullied or witness abuse. You have to tell someone, a trusted adult, counselor, or law enforcement. It's illegal to bully someone, it is harassment. Be an up-stander, not a bystander. If you witness something and so nothing, you are just as guilty as the bully. Other information can be found on their website.

:15 Minutes

Crime/Education/Lifestyles

Sunday, October 26, 2014

9:00-9:30 A.M.

Host: Tim Lennox

Topic: Salvation Army; Deficit Reduction – Red Kettle Campaign – Ed Strong, Major, Salvation Army; Jesse Grear; Advisory Board, Salvation Army; VP & General Manager, Alabama News Network – The Advisory Board and the Major got together and decided since Alabama News Network is the Army's Media Sponsor, it would be a good idea to sell sponsors of the kettles to reduce the Army's deficit – 40 throughout the river Region area. So, for \$2,000, a business can sponsor Kettles that will rotate around, and will be included on promos, public service announcements, etc. The kick-off is on November 20th on the steps of the State Capitol with Lt Governor Kay Ivey. All of the initial sponsors will be there to drop their money in the kettle, and this should give them a good start on their goal of raising \$80,000 to begin with before the Annual Kettle Bell Drive starts. November 20 – December 25 is the biggest time of the year for the Salvation Army as they have to raise money for food and toys for families in need. It is a time for hope for them. The goal for the Kettle Bell Drive this year is \$300,000. \$140,000 was raised last year, but they have an aggressive goal that they are confident that they can reach. They really need volunteers to ring the bells. The Salvation Army has to hire people and pay them to ring the bells if volunteers don't ring them, and this takes money away from the donations. Major Strong said their real mission is to see people won to Christ. They are motivated by their love of Jesus to do what they do. People don't hear the Gospel if they have a toothache; if they are hungry; or if they have no place to live. Their social network grew out of meeting the whole person's needs. Here in Montgomery their biggest mission outside of their religious mission is a 70 bed shelter on Maxwell Boulevard, and a soup kitchen at the same location where they feed the hungry 7 days a week. There is a separate place for men, women, and women with children. It is not an ideal place for children. The people are out doing work or looking for work during the day, and the Salvation Army tries to help them find work. They are not at the shelter all day long. It is a 365 day a year mission. They will feed over 700 families at their annual Thanksgiving dinner this year. They fed 450 last year. The kettles are in 37 locations right now. They will be in the same place, but signage will rotate throughout the campaign.

:15 Minutes

Community/Lifestyles

Topic: One Place Family Justice Center – Steve Searcy, Director – Mr. Searcy said their mission is to service domestic violence victims, sexual abuse victims, elderly abuse, and children who witness domestic violence all under one roof. They are getting more cases, and that is good because he believes it is because people know where they can go and get help. They provide safety, service, and accountability for the offended and they provide stable platforms for victims and children. They have people there to direct them to the services that they need. They have off-site partners that can take them or bring them to FJC where there is law enforcement on-site. The police and domestic violence

bureau is also on site. They transport victims to shelters and other locations. They are the only FJC in the country, out of about 50, that have a magistrate on site. They don't have to take them to court; they can sign the warrant there. They discussed women who are afraid to report abuse and the options that are explained to them. Women sometimes think it will be worse if they tell someone about being abused. The Center will hold a "Pumpkin Palooza" on Halloween night and they want the community to bring the kids in. 19 of their offices are set up and decorated for the event. They want the community to know where they are located if they ever need their services, and they can tell someone else who may need the services if they don't. This is an outreach effort on their part. 1placefjc.org has lots of valuable information. Sexual assault victims are treated at the center as well. Young people who are victimized need to talk to someone who cares; and offenders need to be held accountable and to be punished. They now have a new "A Call To Men" program where they encourage young men to come and ask for help. They want to reach young men at an early age to let them know it's O.K. to hit a baseball; it's O.K. to dunk a basketball; but it's never O.K. to use their hands to control, or force someone to do something against their will.

:15 Minutes

Crime/Community/Lifestyles

Sunday, November 2, 2014

9:00-9:30 A.M.

Host: Tim Lennox

Topic: Voting, General Election – Steven Reed, Montgomery County Probate Judge – Judge Reed said that the Probate Judge is the chief election officer in each county, and their roles during elections include testing machines, publishing notices, making sure poll workers are trained, making sure the machines are working, testing machines, letting voters know where they need to go, and that they have all of the material and information that they need in order to vote, inform the voters of what they need to bring to the polls. The general election on Tuesday is projected to have the lowest turnout in Alabama history, but Judge Reed hopes not. The Secretary of State is forecasting a 40-45% turn out right now. Montgomery County tends to be a little bit higher; tends to be more engaged and clued in. Judge Reed said that in 2010, Montgomery had a 51% turn out, and he hopes the final two weeks will have gotten the people out. Because so few of the races are not really competitive, Tim suggested people are not that interested in them. The Judge thinks it has more to do with the public's frustration with government; the government not being responsive to what the public's needs are, what they are looking for. He thinks the election is important but it may be hard convincing the public it is. Voter ID is required in order to be able to vote for the first time ever during this election. It has been publicized heavily throughout all forms of the media to inform the public of what they need to have. Judge Reed said he was against this law when it was first passed, but since it is a law, they jumped in to make sure the public was informed and knew what they had to do. They had very few problems during the primary elections and expect even less during this one. The election is two days away, but voters can still get voter IDs, it's not too late. They will need to bring a birth certificate, social security card and must be able to say who they are and where they live. The list is pretty exhaustive in showing what the voter can use to prove identity. Judge Reed thinks the law hurts poor people, older people, and the minority. Some people really don't have and never have had photo IDs. He and Tim discussed the problems with the Probate office on Woodley Road. The building was so badly maintained that he moved the staff out of that building and relocated them to other offices. It was closed on November 2nd as it is not fit to be occupied. The County Commission is responsible for leasing buildings for county employees, etc. He's working with the "Healthy Minds Network" that works with a lot of organizations, police, hospitals, the DA office, the Sheriff's office, and area shelters to really come up with solutions for mental health issues we have right now. It impacts everyone. The State Mental Health budget is cut so drastically, that they have to find other resources on the front end, before it affects the community on the backside, and give those with mental health issues the help they need

:15 Minutes

Government/Health

Topic: General Election – Steve Flowers, Political Analyst – The upcoming general election was discussed. Mr. Flowers is still predicting a low turn out because obviously there are no good races. He said these have been the duller campaigns he's seen in his lifetime. Historically in Alabama, 30, 40 or 50 years ago the word tantamount was universally used – if you win the Democrat nomination, it is tantamount to election. Today, it is just the reverse – if you win the Republican nomination, it's tantamount to election. The greatest transformation in American political history is transformation of the Deep South from a totally Democratic region policy wise, to a totally republican region that is more aligned with the Republican Party in the south. That is the reason for the low turn out. If a Republican wins the primary; become the Republican nominee; that's who wins the race. Couple that with the fact that the state has a very popular Republican Governor. It's hard to beat an incumbent; therefore candidates tend to run in open years. Mr. Flowers thinks the turnout will be below 40% because we don't have any good races. It matters what the race is, and ours are not that interesting. Georgia has a U.S. Senate race that will go over 50% because it is interesting. The state's race for Attorney General still looks close – a week of 20 days ago it showed a dead heat in the polls. It will be a race to watch. Mr. Flowers doesn't know why Attorney General Strange is weak among Republican voters. For some reason, every Republican puts Obama's name in their ads. They also discussed ads hiding the source of their money, their sponsorship, but it happens in both parties.

:15 Minutes

Government

Sunday, November 9, 2014
900-9:30 A.M.
Host Tim Lennox

Topic: Veterans Day; Maxwell AFB – Colonel Andrea Tullos, Commander, 42nd Air Base Wing, Maxwell Air Force Base – On Veterans Day, The Colonel will participate in community activities, come down and enjoy the parade, and will celebrate and get out and about and visit with the veterans that don't get the opportunity to come on base that often. They talked about relationships with air bases and the communities surrounding them. She said typically, the location is more remote, not like Montgomery, she likes it that they can come out and feel like a part of the community, get kids in schools, visit shops and restaurants, and take advantage of what the community has to offer. She thinks the relationships will be better, and the happier the Airmen and their families will be. She is the first person in her generation to serve in the military. Her father served in the Korea, but did not retire from the military. She had no idea she would be assigned to Montgomery, but is glad she was. They discussed BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure), and Tim asked if Maxwell would be affected. She said that it is a lengthy process, and she doesn't have any idea of if her base is on the list. Military bases bring a lot to the community in terms of economic impact, and it's really about keeping the relationship strong. The community should do whatever they believe will improve the standing of how the department will look at that mission set. Congress will decide where they will go. She is the Base Commander, but they now call it The Installation Commander. She is like the Mayor of a city. There are 2,500 airmen in the wing, 15,000 base residents; about 47,000 retirees that live, work, or come to Maxwell for some kind of service. The base has a large economic impact on the city. They discussed the rumor of the commissary being closed, but she said they have just got a new one, and the military promised to keep them as a benefit. Health care was discussed as well. Military members are just as concerned about health care as civilians. Affordability and quality care are big issues for the military. Maxwell is a historic base, as it is the site of the Wright Brother's first flight school where they taught people to fly planes.

:15 Minutes

Community/Economy/Government

Topic: Alabama's Veterans; Veterans Day – Bob Horton, Public Information Officer, Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs – Mr. Horton talked about events taking place on Tuesday to honor our veterans. The annual parade will start at 11 A.M. followed by a Veterans Concert in the Montgomery City Auditorium at noon. Dexter Avenue is being repaired, so the parade will follow Monroe Street this year. They have over 50 parade entries comprised of high school bands; college bands; veteran's services organizations; Veterans of Foreign Wars; Military Officers Association; the American Legion Marine Corp League; and many other entries for this year's parade. Tim asked and Mr. Horton explained the relationship between the State Office and the Federal Office of the Departments of Veterans Affairs. He said that they are a State office

mandated by law and have been around since 1945. Essentially they have the same mission as the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs. They do offer unique benefits and services to our vets. In Alabama, we have over 425,000 veterans, in Alabama we have close to 40,000. The military population in Montgomery includes Maxwell AFB; and there is a very large National Guard Reserve presence in the area. His department provides services to our veterans in assisting them with their compensation and pension claims; they support veterans throughout the 67 counties in Alabama; they also have a long term health care program for our vets. There are 4 veteran homes in Alabama; in Bay Minette, Huntsville, Alexander City, and a new one in Pell City that was opened 2 years ago. There is a Veterans Cemetery that opened in April of 2012 in S.W. Alabama. There was a need for one since the one in Spanish Fort close down in the 1960s. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs allocated \$7 million to construct a National Cemetery in Spanish Fort, Alabama. It is operated by the State Department of Veterans Affairs. As of today they have over 400 determinations in the cemetery. The total acreage is 122 acres. He discussed the Alabama Executive Veterans Network (Alavetnet is the brand), an initiative created by Governor Robert Bentley. It is not a program – it is an initiative to help existing programs in the State; to help provide services and benefits to enhance those services and benefits to our veterans. It is a commission created by an executive order that is comprised of 18 agencies. The Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs, Rear Admiral Clyde Marsh, USN (ret.) and Jim Reddoch, Alabama Commissioner of Mental Health serve as co-chairs. The Commission is focused on 6 key areas, health; employment; education; homelessness; family services; and legal assistance. The services are available to any veteran, all veterans and their families. They hope to reduce the veteran unemployment rate below 5% - it is now 7.6%. They had a myriad of services for veterans and their families including the education scholarship program that provides free tuition, books and fees for spouses and children. In 2013 a total of \$43,000,000 was provided.

:15 Minutes

Economy/Community/Lifestyles-Recreation

Sunday, November 16, 2014

9:00-9:30 A.M.

Host: Olivia Deas

Topic: Medicare, Medicaid, Health Care Enrollment, Senior Services – Sandra Adams-Whatley, Central Alabama Aging Consortium – Ms. Whatley is working with the State Health Assistance Program and they are continuing with the annual open enrollment through Medicare that started on October 15th and will end on December 7th. Any Medicare beneficiary can look, compare, and enroll in different plans that are available. She said that early on they found there were about 54 prescription plans available; for 2014 there are only about 34 that are available. Each year they are less and less; what they cost is less, the deductibles, the co-pays change every year, so it is important that someone looks at the different plans available. Recently she was able to save a lady almost \$2,000 by changing her plan. They still have appointments available and those needing can call her office. The only way to enroll is either going on-line to medicare.gov, or call the plan directly. A lot of seniors don't have access to computers and this is a free insurance counseling program, and they are affiliated with any company, and the seniors don't have to tell them what plan they choose. Her company will give the comparisons and they can go home and discuss it with their families, then make their decisions. She explained the difference between Medicaid (for those who have low to moderate income) and Medicare (federally funded for those who have paid into) and explained how those who've paid into Medicare can get in on Medicare can get in at any age. After a person has been deemed disabled, and completing the 24 months waiting period they can be approved. They have some young people on Medicare as well. When people come in for open enrollment, they also screen them for other benefits for extra help, to see if they qualify for the program that helps pay the premium (the Medicaid savings program through Alabama Medicaid), and it will help pay the Medicare Part B Program. This will save them \$150 per month, and it automatically qualifies them for extra help with drug costs. This could be a savings of almost \$4,000 a year. Everyone that comes in isn't only screened for the drug plan, but are screened for other benefits that will help them as well. Preventative care service was discussed. Several years ago, Medicare started covering mammograms, and flu shots with no co-pay, and no deductibles under preventive care services. It has been expanded as a part of the Affordable Care Act. Those who are new to Medicare had a "welcome to Medicare" exam and then an annual check-up that is covered also. Their staff is assigned each day to serve people that call in or if they want to, come into their offices. They cover Autauga, Elmore, and Montgomery counties and is a part of an area agency on aging. There are also 13 area agencies on aging that cover the entire state of Alabama. Other services they have are the elderly and disabled waiver program – contracts with different agencies and Medicaid certifies that they are eligible; provide homemaker, personal care, frozen meal delivery (any age); and Alabama Cares. The caregiver is their client; they contract with agencies for respite relief; free insurance counseling; free legal services; Senior RX (contact pharmaceuticals on client's behalf); nutrition program. There are 20-24 senior centers in the tri-county area for recreation; home delivery program – meals on wheels; etc. Resources are there for our seniors and they want caregivers and assistants

for the elderly to be taken care of. She gave their phone number for clients to call for help.

:15 Minutes

Health/Lifestyles

Topic: Educating and Caring for Disabled – Patricia Lockwood, Principal, Montgomery Public School's Children Center; Erin Redd, PIE/Montgomery Education Association – The center accepts children in grades K-12, ages 5-21. All are medically disabled, medically fragile and have significant need. A lot of them have cerebral palsy, autism, devastating and traumatic brain injuries. They have about 95 students and 7 nurses, 4 physical therapists; occupational therapists, and 15 teacher paraprofessionals on staff. Their days are centered around providing the need for their students. Their main goals are physical management for the students, their communication skills, and to provide stimulation. They want the students to be very stimulated, and when they go home from school they want them to feel like they've had a safe, happy day. Ms. Redd discussed Partner in Educations' role with the center. PIE partners with 50+ schools in the area and they are partnering with Children Center for a fundraiser. They will sell customized bottles of water to the community for their homes and businesses. They ask them to make a small contribution. PIE has reached out to Publix and Buffalo Rock Bottling Company to ask for this assistance. They are trying to collect 500 cases of water so they can raise \$12,500. If they can find 500 businesses, community members, churches, Sunday schools classes to purchase just 1 case that will be \$12,500. The proceeds will go to purchase supplies for the school – communication devices to speak, mats, bean bags, parts for wheel chairs, socks, extra pairs of clothes, baby wipes, Lysol, computers, and the list goes on and on. These children have very different needs. They discussed other things that PIE is involved in and how they connect the community and schools by bringing resources and volunteers together and basically fill the gaps that exist in our schools. All of our schools have so many needs, and there is always a place for volunteers to connect, for businesses to donate either their time or their money. The school is not a zoned school, but a system school. Students come from all over the county. The nurses do 138 tube feedings a day; they have to chart everything, just like in a hospital. In a hospital, the nurse would have 6 patients; in the school they have 12 each. They provide lots of services for the children. The physical therapists make sure those who are wheel chair bound are up, and the gate trainer are on the bicycles. 40 8th graders from St. James School sponsored a dance for the school on yesterday. There are 7 of these schools in the state now. Viewers can contact the Children Center, Montgomery Education Foundation, or PIE to donate.

:15 Minutes

Education/Health

Sunday, November 23, 2014

9:00-9:30 A.M.

Host: Tim Lennox

Topic: Public Housing – Evette Hester, Director, Montgomery Housing Authority –

Ms. Hester gave a thumbnail sketch and told how many projects there are in the city and how many people live in them. The Housing Authority is the largest affordable housing provider in the city of Montgomery and they serve over 4,200 families in 2 distinct programs that are The Housing Choice Rental Program (was formerly called Section 8) they serve over 2,800 families in the program; and the Public Housing Program – they own and manage the property for low to moderate income families. Tulane Gardens is now The Plaza at Centennial Hill. It is a mixed income community, is 100% occupied with 2,800 families on the waiting list. Rent is determined by income, and that is based on how much the family earns. They must qualify based on the income limits set by the Federal Government. Ms. Hester and Tim discussed other projects they have in the city. Patterson Court is the oldest housing project that they have in their inventory, and it may be the oldest in this county, they are still trying to verify this. It goes back to 1937, and most of the projects were built in the 40s and 50s. She explained how to qualify for public housing and said applicants must earn 80% of area medium income, and a family of four can't earn more than \$40 - \$42,000 per year. She too, explained how landlords qualify for the program. Their property must adhere to very high standards set by the Federal Government, and must be safe and secure. People in public housing also receive supportive services that are designed to help them become self sufficient such as education programs, job training programs, etc. Criminal background checks are made on every family member over the age of 18. Crime rate in the new public housing area has diminished since it was replaced with Centennial Hill. The Authority gets reports from the police each day and are told that crime is not existent in that area. She thinks the improvements that they have added to the community instills a sense of pride, a sense of community, and people are very protective of it. They are about to begin the groundbreaking of phase 2 of Centennial Hill. They have issued a notice to proceed to the general contractor who will begin construction shortly on 129 new affordable homes and townhomes. It will take 18 months to complete the project. Tim asked if people stay generationally in public housing, and Ms. Hester said she has found that they don't stay over 5 years. She discussed their home ownership program in their Housing Choice Voucher Program (they assist tenants with this). Viewers can visit www.mhatoday.org for more information.

:15 Minutes

Community/Government

Topic: Envision 20/20, The Healthy Minds Network – Lynn Beshear, Executive Director Envision 20/20 – Stigma is a huge barrier to mental health care. Ms. Beshear said that Probate Judge Steven Reed contacted her after being in office for only 3 weeks. He kept noticing a revolving door and it was very clear to him that mental health was involved – that the people he kept seeing were not criminals. Mental health treatment in

his country is \$113 billion a year across the United States. This greatly impact the workforce, families, and every segment of society. No one is immune from the potential of developing a mental illness. It has a broad range – from a major depression to a severe psychosis. Tim wanted to know if the Affordable Care Act provide mental health coverage, and Ms. Beshear said that she isn't familiar with this, but do know that their private insurers, Blue Cross, and other health insurance companies, Medicare, Medicaid, and All Kids do provide for mental services. They have local providers that will provide services on a sliding scale fee, depending on a person's income, so the person can receive the services that they need. There is a severe mental health provider shortage across the country. Some mental illnesses can be controlled with medicine, and in recent years there has been a whole array of medications that treat all levels of mental illnesses from depression to psychosis; bi-polar disease, and the challenge particularly with people who don't have a strong support system from their families to make sure they have the services that they need and the personal care to make sure they remain compliant with their meds. They created the "Healthy Minds Network" that is comprised of all of the mental health services in this region – our hospitals, our mental health authority, our law enforcement. This is not an effort to treat anybody, but to match up those who have a need of service with those who have the services available. She talked about several difficulties those who have mental health face, and said housing is a major issue for those with mental illness, especially if they don't have families as lot of them end up homeless. Interestingly, the largest provider of mental health services in the U.S. in our prison system. People can go to www.envision20/20.org for more information, or call the office, and they can direct people to where they need to go.

:15 Minutes

Health

November 30, 2014
9:00-9:30 A.M.
Host: Tim Lennox

Topic: Salvation Army Campaigns – Jesse Grear, Salvation Army Advisory Board, General Manager, V.P. Alabama News Network; Jerald Labovitz, Salvation Army Advisory Board – Donations were very slow last year, so the Salvation Army's Advisory Board got together and decided on a way that would bring in more donations. They decided to offer businesses a way to sponsor a sign. For \$2,000 the sign is sponsored, and the businesses' logo goes up at different locations in the River Region. By doing this, they had already over \$41,000 before the campaign started, which is 1/3 of what last year's total was. They've got a good start, and they have set a lofty goal of \$300,000 this year, and they are well on their way. Mr. Labovitz said his whole company donates individually as well as spend time and ring the bell. The Army has a fund raising goal to retire some debts to get back into the black. Mr. Neal thinks they will do it this year. They have some passionate board members are working together to accomplish this. This is a Christian Organization, and they want to help everyone, and it is a 365 day deal. This is just the main drive, but the day after Christmas, they will start again housing people, and helping people find jobs. It's temporary housing, they don't stay there all the time, but this is a year 'round charity. They try to help as many people as they can every day of the year, and obviously, it comes from donations. The "Red Kettle" is their biggest drive, so please drop something in it when you see them. Every little bit helps. R. Labovitz said the corporate community has been very supportive. That's where the brunt of the money comes from, but the ringing of the bell give everyone a chance to be charitable. It's the last safety net for many people in Montgomery. Bells will be in 47 locations in the River Region area, so when you see them, again, do drop something in them. They discussed the Magical Christmas Toy Drive – there are 1,000 families in the River Region area that don't usually have Christmas. If there are 4 children, that number will be 4,000 people. The Salvation Army got businesses to sponsor the effort, and asked the public for new, unwrapped toys to be dropped off at the businesses or at the toy vault at Alabama News Network. Mr. Labovitz told Tim what he gets out of volunteering, and why he loves it. The campaign runs through Christmas Eve; the Toy Drive runs through December 14th, and the toys will be distributed on December 15th. All business sponsors agreed to donate \$1,000 as well to purchase toys.

:15 Minutes

Community/Lifestyles

Topic: Arthritis/Jingle Bell Run, Lisa Hemphill, Development Director, Alabama Arthritis Foundation; Cindy Ducker, Arthritis Patient & Volunteer – The Jingle Bell run started in 1984, but in Montgomery it started 25 years ago. It is a fun filled great way to celebrate those with arthritis and raise funds. There is a registration fee and people can also raise money by asking friends and family for donations. To enter you can register online. It is the biggest fundraiser for the organization. Tim and the guests discussed arthritis. Ms. Ducker said she has had arthritis since she was 8 years old, and she has

been so desperate for a cure that she used to try things that she knew wouldn't work. She used to be confined to a wheelchair, but doesn't need it all of the time now – she uses it occasionally. Her joints have been replaced, and she has pins in them. She said there are over 5,000 children in Alabama with Arthritis, and 300,000 nationwide. There are over 120 forms of arthritis, and the kinds they focus on are rheumatoid, osteoarthritis and juvenile arthritis. There are 52,000,000 people living with doctor's diagnosed arthritis, and it is the leading cause of disability. The Foundation is aiming for a cure. The Jingle Bell run will be held this year on December 6. You can sign up online; the easiest way is to go to www.arthritis.org, look for Jingle Bell Run, find Montgomery's link, and sign up. You can actually make a cash donation to the Arthritis office. Just call Lisa at 334-557-1577

:15 Minutes

Health/Community

December 7, 2014
9:00-9:30 A.M.
Host: Tim Lennox

Topic: VOICES For Alabama's Children – Apreill Hartsfield, Communications Director – Ms. Hartsfield discussed the new 2014 Alabama Kids Comp Data book that was released last month. She said they have added 30 new indicators – well measures – of child well being to this book. Now they have 46 indicators of child well being measures. The data book looks at how children are faring in Alabama; it shows the taps in child well being, and acts as a benchmark and road map for them as children advocates. Their data is collected from a lot of different agencies. They've added measures across the board, and the biggest area they've added is probably school readiness, measuring how children are ready for school; how they are faring before they get into school; are they ready to get into the first day of kindergarten. They looked at Alabama First Pre-K Program, Child Care, and at the mother's education that also affect the child's well being and readiness for school. Our Pre-K program is a star in Alabama, other states come to see how we do it. Montgomery's is ranked as first of the Pre-K programs in the state. One thing they found in the book this year is child poverty has increased. The answer to this is meeting families where they are and providing the support, programs, and policies that will help them face the challenges they to deal with in everyday life. The Pre-K is one of those programs and they have looked at several others. Pre-K is for 4 year olds, and even though it is one of the best in the country, only 1% of 4 year olds in Alabama have access to it. Eventually they hope to see it fully funded. \$13.8 million a year up to the year 2020 is needed to do this, but the investment made in our children will be worth it. They have noticed a significant amount of food deserts in Alabama, where they don't have, or have low access to fresh, healthy, food, They are working on an initiative that will help to bring fresh, healthy food closer to these children. Looking at the State at a whole, there has been an improvement in the graduation rate; and the infant mortality rate has improved. Even though we still have one of the worst rates in the country, we're moving in a positive direction. We've seen better improvement in the last two years, ranked at 44th, but we have been ranked at 50 in the past. We need to invest in and support programs that will help families and their opportunities to succeed. All of their information can be found at www.alvoices.org.

:15 Minutes

Education/Lifestyles

Topic: CARES Project, Family Sunshine Center, Wanda Bowden, Director, CARES Project – CARES stands for Children Advancing Through recovery and Empowerment Services. Many times children experience trauma through witnessing, or being exposed to domestic violence, child abuse, child neglect, child sexual assault. They have found that the impact of witnessing, having fearful events where they are threatened, or have felt threatened over a long time can cause changes to the brain and have a great impact on their health, their well being, and their ability to learn. This project is designed specifically for children who have experienced trauma. Tim wanted to know if the mothers are involved in the program and was told that it is for anyone who

has been abused as a caregiver. The project involves caregivers – women, men, teachers, communities, everyone who influences the child's life. It is not an investigative program, it focuses on healing and recovery for what the child has experienced. They work with partners in the community – The Department of Human Resources, law enforcement, the Family Justice Center, The Helping Montgomery Families Initiative, Montgomery Public Schools, The Gifts of Life – they have a lot of partners in this project. Is it emotionally damaging to the counselors? The counselors have this program where they look to see if what they are doing is making a difference. They measure it through assessments, through baseline assessments, then follow that up, and then again at discharge. A program review shows a 50% reduction of symptoms after using a therapy model the past 1 ½ years. They have professional evaluators as well to ensure they get good data from the model. They discussed symptoms to look for when abuse is suspected and they include: when children can't concentrate or seems zoned out; when they have difficulty learning; when they are so aroused and active that they can't sleep well; when they are depressed; when they have "reminders". It's like they have PTSD. The best way to contact CARES and report abuse is by calling their crisis line at 334-263-0218 or visiting their website at www.family sunshine.org. Their services are free.

:15 Minutes

Crime/Lifestyles

December 14, 2014
9:00-9:30 A.M.
Host: Tim Lennox

Topic: Voting, Etc., Jim Bennett, Outgoing Alabama Secretary of State – Tim asked Mr. Bennett to give a comparison between now and his last time in office as Secretary of State. This is his 4th time in this office, and he said it all kind of gets mixed up. Basically, he said it's the same – reforming elections, making sure they are as honest as possible; they get sued a lot by people who want them to do things that's not really in the law. The Secretary of State is bound by law to enforce bill that the legislature passes. It's not always a personal thing that he steps forward with, but he has to carry out the will of the legislature, and that is the law of the land, and that is what he is paid to do. During the recent elections they had several anomalies; absentee voting was down, and it was down even in Black Belt counties where it is traditionally high. Years in the past there 15-20% of the turn-out would be in absentees, which rang some bells that weren't good (maybe fraud?). It's odd that 20% of the population would be out of town on election day. It was down 3-4% in those counties where's traditionally high. The turnout was down everywhere across the nation, and was the lowest it has been since World War II. In Alabama it was the lowest it's been in the last 30 years, and this is because there were no highly contested races. In a Presidential year it would be in the 70s, and this time it was 41%. There were more independents, minor party candidates than we usually have (13) which was interesting. Alabama has amended our State Constitution 5 more times, and the number is now at 891 amendments. Soon we will be at 1,000 and will have the largest constitution in the world, not the U.S., the world. He said that if something has been amended that many times, it is broken and needs to be changed. Voter ID was used for the first time during the last election, and he said it was highly successful, even more so than our sister states. It is used in nine other states besides Alabama. Before Voter ID there were 24 different forms of ID, everything from a fishing license to a utility bill were used. Any government listed ID is acceptable. Voting online was discussed, and Mr. Bennett feels that eventually, it will come to be. Should everyone have the right to vote? He said that everyone that has that right should. His term is ending, and said he doesn't think he will be sitting by the phone waiting to be asked to come back for the 5th time.

15 Minutes
Government

Topic: Family Guidance Center – Dr. Walter White, Executive Director – This family counseling service has operated in Montgomery since 1959. Dr. White has been the Executive Director since 1988, and they are involved in a lot of things focused on strengthening and supporting families. He discussed the services that are offered at the center – all types of counseling for families and children; a lot of marriage; a lot of family; a lot with young children issues and problems. They are probably one of the largest providers of marriage counseling in the area, and they do a lot of things to help individuals and families work through problems they may have in order to get to a better place. They are a private, non-profit organization. When asked about the most difficult

part of counseling, he said that it is hard to say because everyone's problem is the most difficult for them. He said it is always tough when it involved some type of conflict, some type of abuse; some type of problem that's been going on for a long, long, time. Sometimes the most difficult thing for a person to do is pick up the phone and ask for help. They try to be very responsive and get people in as quickly as possible whether it be a problem regarding their child; their relationship; depression, or anxiety, etc. They have offices in Birmingham, Hayneville, Dothan, a lot of services in Selma, Opelika, Talladega, and Tuscaloosa. When asked how the Affordable Care Act affected his services, he said it hasn't had a large affect. He thinks it's been a good thing that folks can access health care that they couldn't access in the past. It hasn't had a negative impact on them at all. When a member of the family is having a problem and is being counseled, it is sometimes good for the whole family, or another member of the family to participate in the sessions as well. The lack of communication is at the heart of a lot of problems that families have. Their pay structure – they operate on a sliding fee scale, and it is based on income, and the number of people in the family. Obama Care requires Mental Health to be covered. When needed, people should call in at 334-270-4100 to make an appointment, they will try to get them in as soon as possible. They can also visit the website at www.familyguidance.org.

:15 Minutes

Health/Lifestyles

WNCF PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM
NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST
Fourth Quarter, 2014

WNCN-TV NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST: CRIME

10/1/14 – 5-7 A.M.

PRISON REFORM TASK FORCE

A State Prison Reform task force has met for a second time. The members heard testimony from a group that has researched the Alabama prison system and found funding is a continuing problem. The prison's budget has been cut but there is some good news. Just the remarkable downturn in sentences to prisons that have happened over the last few years . . . a lot of people are surprised to see those numbers looking that way and ask the question why it's not translating into lower prison population and less overcrowding? The reason for that is a slowdown in the backend mechanisms. The group plan to meet again in September.

:40 CAM/VO

10/2/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

WETUMPKA CHIEF FIRED

The Wetumpka City council has voted to fire Wetumpka Police Chief Celia Dixon. She and Deputy Chief Anthony Crenshaw were placed on leave in July. Today, the City council held a meeting to present the allegations against Dixon, which city officials are calling personnel issues. Dixon has seven days to request a post-disciplinary hearing, where she can appeal the ruling.

:30 CAM/VO

10/8/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

ALABAMACAN LAUNCH

Crime victims and anyone else interested in the status of a criminal case or inmate can now get that information electronically. The system which the Legislature approved in 2011 is called Crime Victim automated Notification. It allows residents to track parole dates of felony offenders. Some 6,000 parole hearings are held in Alabama each year. One out of every four Alabamians will be the victim of crime in their lifetime.

1:00 CAM/VO

10/9/14 – 5:30-6 p.m.

ADOC GRADS

Recruiting new officers remains a top priority for the Alabama Department of Corrections. Ninety-one new officers graduated today in Selma, joining the ranks of the state's largest enforcement agency. The next class of recruits begins training Monday, and those who successfully make it through will graduate in January. Alabama currently has one of the highest inmate to officer Ratios in the country – about 10 to 1.

2:10 PKG

10/16/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We are joined on today's Talkback by Tony Garrett from Central Alabama Crime Stoppers and Assistance District Attorney Carrie Shaw. Calls were taken at 1-800-504-4084 or 420-TALK.

5:00 GRFX/LIVE

10/19/14 – 10-10:30 P.M.

SENTENCING GUIDELINES

Alabama prison officials hope new guidelines will ease overcrowding in state prisons. Those guidelines deal with drugs and theft cases, and are based on a point system which will weigh inmate's prior criminal histories and other factors to figure out how long he or she should be incarcerated. State prison officials say over the last few years, prison populations have been on a steady upward trend. They say the guidelines ensure uniform sentencing and promote community supervision programs instead of long prison terms for non-violent offenders.

:40 CAM/VO

10/23/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

Marjorie Baker from the Family Sunshine Center was today's guest. October is Domestic Violence month, and AUM is hosting a training session on helping children deal with the realities of it. Viewer calls were taken at 1-800-5-404-84 and 420-TALK.

4:00 GRFX/LIVE

11/6/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

Dallas County district Attorney Michael Jackson was on today's segment. Viewers were asked to call into 1-800-504-4084 or 420-TALK with their crime related questions.

4:00 GRFX/LIVE

11/6/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

INTERNET CRIME TRAINING

The Internet has become of law enforcement's biggest tools, and like any other tool, it takes training to use it well. You can do just about anything on the Internet – connect with friends, and you can buy pretty much anything. You can also have your identify stolen or fall prey to a predator. There's an inherent danger in anything that goes on the Internet if you're not safe. Once information is put out there, it's almost impossible to retrieve that information. Lt. Bill Hough from the Tallapoosa County Sheriff's Department has a lot of experience in Internet crime. They teach children about the dangers of the Internet. You can no longer tell them, "I said so", you have to be able to show them the dangers out there. They provide Internet safety programs to children in

schools as well as to civic groups. Their training is offered through AUM's Continuing Education Program and is funded by grants through ADECA. They offer about 20 classes, all free of charge for officers in any agency.

2:05 PKG

11/11/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

DEMOPOLIS POLICE SWAT TRAINING

Police officers from around the state are training in Demopolis this week learning how to respond to high-risk-high-threat situations. The training sessions are a part of the state certification program for tactical officers who are put through a series of intense live training exercises that teach them how to perform under pressure. Some areas of training include active shooter response, hostage rescue and negotiations, and execution of high-risk search warrants. The Demopolis Police Department is hosting the event.

:30 CAM/VO

11/17/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

WETUMPKA CHIEF

The City of Wetumpka now has a new Police Chief. The City Council voted today to install Danny Billingsley as the city's new top cop. He replaces Celia Dixon, who was fired last month after being accused of abusing her power. Billingsley previously served as a Montgomery Police Officer.

:30 CAM/VO

11/18/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TA GIBBS VILLAGE

We're taking action against crime tonight - - - some people who live in Gibbs village they're concerned for their safety. They want the Housing Authority to do something about it, or else they're moving out. Gibbs Village has a history of crime and while John Knight, Chairman of the Montgomery Housing Authority says they've been partnering with Police to improve safety; have added surveillance cameras, and taken other preventative measures, some people who live there say's it's not enough. Housing Authority officials are asking the tenants to be patient as they work to try and improve the neighborhood.

2:10 PKG

11/24/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

WETUMPKA CHIEF

It's been nearly a week since Wetumpka's new Police Chief was sworn in . . . now, he's sitting down to tell us about his plans in an exclusive interview with us. Chief Danny Billingsley says for now, he's observing how things are run at the Wetumpka Police Department, but he says soon, people will see lots of changes. Billingsley has 42 years of

experience in law enforcement. He's a former Commander with the Montgomery Police Department, and most recently an investigator with the Attorney General's office. He says he plans to do a lot more community policing like having more patrols in neighborhoods and getting more involved with children and teens in the community.

1:00 INTERVIEW

12/3/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

SHERIFF'S BODY CAMS

The Montgomery County Sheriff's office is testing a new tool that will serve as extra evidence for deputies to use to fight crime. They will be getting 80 new body cameras early next year. Right now, they're testing them out. Sheriff's Deputies tell us getting the body cameras stemmed from violence in Ferguson, Missouri after a white police officer shot and killed a black man in August. Our reporter Catalina Trivino tested out the cameras with one of the deputies. First you will see the video we recorded, then you will see the video from the body camera. That video can be sent even on location back to the office in minutes in case of an emergency. The new system costs about \$150,000, and is paid for with joint funding from the County Commission and the Sheriff's Office. Butler County is also getting prepared for body cameras.

1:00 VAM/VO/SOT

12/3/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

MCKEE MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH PATROL

Crimestoppers is teaming up with one Montgomery Public School to increase safety. School officials say since they've implemented its Crimestoppers Youth Patrol this school year, they've seen a huge change in students' behavior. If you're walking the hallways at McKee Middle School in Montgomery, you may see a few students in neon green shirts, and what they're doing is making a difference in nearly 900 students' lives. Students say their hallways were very different six months ago . . . they said there used to be fighting and kids used to try to smoke on school grounds . . . they would run around the hallways, skip class, and hang back sometimes. Things have changed a lot inside the Middle School, and the change is because of those students in neon green shirts with the Crimestoppers Youth Patrol. About 40 students are partnering with their school resource officers and Crimestoppers. The students say they are taking what they are learning here at McKee Middle School back to their homes, and they hope in turn, that could help change the community.

2:16 PKG

12/3/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We're joined on today's Talkback by Tony Garrett with Crime Stoppers. Calls will be taken at 1-800-504-4084 or 420-TALK.

4:00 LIVE

12/5/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

STATE TROOPER

Big changes are coming to law enforcement in Alabama. In January, the state's largest policing organizations will be combined into one entity called the Alabama Law enforcement Agency. Supporters hope it will save money, but some retired State Troopers are speaking out against the merger. Retired public safety employees said they are concerned that switching out logos, badges, and implementing the new agency structure could cost more than it saves. They don't think it has been well thought out, and even though it won't affect those officers that are retired, it will affect the public. Alabama Law Enforcement Agency Representatives tell us the transition is on track, and it will save taxpayers money when it's complete.

2:25 PKG

12/5/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

UNDER AGE UNDER ARREST PROGRAM

Alabama's alcohol Beverage Control Board is working to keep underage teens away from alcohol. Representatives are traveling the state with the "Under Age, Under Arrest Program". The program has reached over 7,000 students in Alabama so far, and today they stopped by Montgomery Academy. The panel is made up of everyone from Montgomery Mayor Todd Strange to law enforcement officials to church leaders. In the United States, 3,800 kids will die, whether it's from drinking and driving, or in other cases, homicides, as well as suicides. The students were reminded that no matter who gives them alcohol, it's still illegal if they're under 21. Officials told them they if they do come into contact with law enforcement, they will be subject to penalties, and they'd rather they spend the night in jail than have to call their parents later and tell them their child has been injured or killed. The representatives' goal is to keep alcohol out of the hands of students.

2:00 PKG

12/17/14 – 10-10:30 P.M.

NEW CHIEF ANNOUNCED

Mayor Todd Strange announced today that Earnest Finley , who has more than 25 years of experience with the Atlanta Police Department has been hired as Montgomery's new Police Chief. Finley says he's been worshipping in a number of churches over the past few weeks trying to get a feel for the community. He says he wants to make Montgomery the safest city in America. Public Safety Director Chris Murphy says Finley is more than qualified for the position, citing his Master's Degree from Rutgers University. Mayor Strange thanked interim Police Chief John Brown numerous times for his service these past few months. As you may remember, Brown did not want the position permanently.

1:35 PKG

12/29/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

PREVENTING HOLIDAY THEFT

The empty packages from Christmas gifts can make you a target for criminals. Putting gift boxes in your trash may be a dead give away telling thieves what they can steal inside your home. Chief Derrick Cunningham said piles of paper and boxes in front of your home can speak volumes to thieves. He's advising to keep gift boxes and bags out of sight. Thieves drive around looking for alarm company signs and they know they may not want to try a house that is protected. He also advised not leaving your name, address, invoices, and shipping labels on boxes as identity can be stolen this way. He advises that trash be stored away until the day of the scheduled garbage pick-up. Taking action against crime . . . I'm Catalina Trivino.

2:25 CAM/PKG

WNCF-TV LOCAL NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST: GOVERNMENT

10/1/14 – 5:00-7:00 A.M.

ARTUR DAVIS RECEPTION

Former Congressman Artur Davis is acting like a candidate for Mayor, but says he has not decided whether to run next year. A reception for his in Montgomery last night was paid for by the “Artur Davis for Mayor” Committee which Davis formed. He says this was not a kickoff to his campaign, and that a decision to run will come later.

:30 CAM/VO

10/13/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

STEVE FLOWERS

We are getting closer to Election Day – it’s 3 weeks from tomorrow. Our political analyst Steve Flowers is here with us now, to track some of the top races. He started with the Governor’s race. Sometimes there are surprises in the final weeks of the campaign. Is there anything that could send Governor Robert Bentley’s campaign off the tracks?

3:00 INTERVIEW

10/14/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We’re joined on today’s Talkback by Alabama Secretary of State Jim Bennett. The deadline to register to vote in next month’s general election is next Monday. Calls were taken at 1-800-504-4084 or 420-TALK.

4:30 GRFX/LIVE

10/20/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

CITY BUS MEETING

It was a packed house as the Montgomery Transportation Coalition met for its monthly meeting. They invited all bus riders to come let their voices be heard. The city met with the coalition last month to tell them of the lack of funding, and there may have to be some changes, including cutting back on Saturdays and night services. Mayor Todd Strange says the city is having to make up the \$3 million shortfall, when it’s not turning a profit. He also said what they’re trying to do is put the most dollars where they get the biggest impact. Coalition member Jon Broadway says the impact the bus rider has on the community has greater value.

2:15 PKG

10/22/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We're joined on today's Talkback by Montgomery County Commissioner Reed Ingram. Calls regarding County Government were taken at 1-800-504-4084 and 420-TALK.

5:00 GRFX/LIVE

10/28/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

Kylle McKinney, Public Affairs Specialist at the Social Security Administration was today's guest. Viewers called in to 1-800-504-4084 and 420-TALK to ask about questions that concerned them.

4:00 GRFX/LIVE

11/3/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

TOUGH TIMES FOR TODD?

To be Mayor of any city requires the courage to make tough decisions and also knowing many of those decisions may not be popular. This year, Mayor Todd Strange has faced some of the hardest decisions of his political life. Tonight he's opening up and sharing how those choices have affected him personally.

5:35 PKG

11/4/14 - 5:00-7:00 A.M.

ELECTION PREVIEW

It is Election Day and the polls will open in two hours and will stay open until 7 o'clock tonight. Voters will head to the polls to let their voices be heard. There are five statewide constitutional amendments on the ballot. They range from banning the use of foreign laws in Alabama to preserving the right to bear arms. One of Alabama's two U.S. Senate seats is up for re-election, but Republican Jeff Sessions is running unopposed.

2:00 PKG

11/5/14 – 5:00-7:00 A.M.

GOVERNOR'S RACE

Democratic candidate for Governor Parker Griffith knew he was an underdog in the race but hoped to pull off a victory, but it was not to be, and Bentley was declared the victor shortly after the polls closed. Griffith says he would have done better if he had entered the race earlier. He qualified to run just before the deadline in February. Reporter Ashley Thompson has the story.

1:50 PKG

11/5/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

ELECTION WRAP

As the dust settles from Tuesday's midterm elections, Republicans are planning how to use their momentum – after taking control of the Senate along with adding an even larger majority in the house. Democrats are adjusting to a new reality on Capitol Hill and President Obama today is talking about how all of this will impact his final two years in office.

1:50 CAM/PKG

11/9/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We're joined on today's Talkback by Prattville Mayor Bill Gillepsie. We'll take your calls now at 1-800-504-4084 or 420-TALK.

5:00 GRFX/LIVE

1/14/14 – 5:30-6 P.M..

NEW COUNTY COMISSIONER SWORN IN

Montgomery County's newly appointed Commissioner has now officially taken office. Hall grew up in Alabama and currently resides in Pike Road with his wife and three children. He said he is grateful to the Governor for his faith in him, and he looks forward to carrying out the duties of the county and working with the citizens on the goals and the future of his district, and living up to the example the Governor has set of hard work and dedication to his constituents and a good physical steward.

1:00 VO/SOT

11/17/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We're joined on today's Talkback by Tuskegee Mayor Johnny Ford. We'll take your calls now at 1-800-504-4084 or 420-TALK.

4:00 GRFX/LIVE

11/18/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We're joined on today's Talkback by Political analyst Steve Flowers . . . our topic . . . what the results of the recent elections will be for Alabama politics. Calls were taken at 1-800-504-4084 or 420-TALK.

4:00 GRFX/LIVE

11/20/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We're joined on today's Talkback by Tallassee's Mayor Bobby Payne. We'll take your calls at 1-800-504-4084 or 420-TALK.

3:30 GRFX/LIVE

11/24/14 – 5:00-7:00 A.M.

TIM'S INTERVIEW

Here with me is Tim Lennox, and we're discussing how the environmental protection agency is going to issue rules governing coal ash before December 20th . . . and that could have an impact in Alabama. Tim will tell us more about his piece.

3:05 LIVE INTERVIEW

11/25/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

DISTRICT 89 VOTING

We now know the winner of the district 89 House of Representatives seat. Alan Booth will keep his seat. Joel Lee Williams sat down with Alabama News Network to break the news that he will not ask for a recount or contest the race against incumbent Alan Booth. Only 84 votes ultimately separated the two. We also broke the news that some District 89 voters were given the wrong ballots in Dale County on Election Day. Williams says he's tried to stay clean and positive the entire campaign . . . and he wants to continue that way . . . saying digging into possible discrepancies is not the way he wanted to win. Less than a 1% margin separated the two candidates . . . but it was not close enough to trigger an automatic recount.

:50 CAM/VO/SOT

12/2/15 – 5:30-6 P.M.

ROSS MINORITY LEADER

The Alabama Senate now has a new minority leader. Democratic State Senator Quinton Ross of Montgomery replaced Senator Vivian Davis Figures who did not seek another term. Ross will be taking over a smaller minority than his predecessor with only 8 of the 35 seats in the Senate owned by Democrats. Ross is serving his fourth term in the senate.

:30 VO

12/5/15 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

Prattville's Mayor Bill Gillepsie was today's guest on Talkback. Calls were taken at 1-800-504-4084 or 420-talk.

3:00 GRFX/PGK

12/16/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

Pike Road Mayor Gordon Stone was today's guest on Talkback. Calls were taken at 1-800-504-4084 and 420-TALK.

4:00 GFRX/LIVE

12/18/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We were joined on today's Talkback by Montgomery Mayor Todd Strange. A lot is happening in the Capital City . . . so we want to hear from you. Calls were taken at 1-800-504-4084 and 420-TALK.

5:00 GFRX/LIVE

12/30/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TROY MAYOR 2015 GOALS

For Troy Mayor Jason Reeves, 2014 brought some challenges but also good news for the city's economy. Mother Nature rang in the New Year, hitting Troy with some of the worst conditions in the state, but the Mayor said they met that challenge, and it showed that the things they'd been doing the right-a-way clearance, the capital investments, the looping – all those things worked. In the months since weathering the slippery roads, other blocks have been lifted including the way the city serves beer. Newly draft sales were good for restaurants, and the city's utility and sales tax revenue's hit historic highs. This fiscal year, the city hit a record of more than \$5,000,000 in sales tax. Bike friendly initiatives, new sidewalks, and road repairs were put into place to make for a smoother commute in 2014. He said they have some additional road projects on the horizon that he feels like will be some of the largest and most exciting in the history of the city. They are also breaking ground on the new animal shelter and a new facility at the Pike County Lake.

2:00 CAM/PKG

WNCF-TV LOCAL NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST: HEALTH

10/2/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

ILLNESS PREPS

With the National spotlight on the Ebola patient in Dallas, Healthcare workers are urging people to take precaution when it comes to other more common illnesses. Flu season is right around the corner . . . it is a virus that claims thousands of lives every year. One of the most common questions doctors get is when can patients go back to work or back to school. Dr. Slagley says it's safe to go back once you've gone 24 hours with no fever or no symptoms.

2:20 PKG

10/6/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

VA DIRECTOR TERMINATION PROCEEDINGS

The process has begun to fire the director of the Central Alabama Veterans Affairs Health Care System. The VA's Deputy Secretary says he wants James Talton removed because he says an investigation showed neglect of duty. Talton was placed on administrative leave in august after reports of hundreds of X-rays not being read, veterans facing long delays in getting appointments, and a case of an employee taking a patient to buy illegal drugs. Congresswoman Martha Roby says the proposed termination is a major step toward building trust with Alabama veterans.

1:10 CAM/VO

10/7/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We're joined on today's Talkback by State Health Officer Doctor Don Williamson. A child has now died from the Enterovirus, and the Ebola scare is raising many questions. We'll take your calls now at 1-800-504-4084 or 420-TALK.

5:00 GRFX/LIVE

10/8/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

Today is International Walk to School Day, and children in Montgomery Public Schools were doing just that. Montgomery Mayor Todd Strange escorted some children walking to Southlawn Elementary this morning. The kids get to take part in a global event that celebrates benefits of walking and to learn safe walking routes to school. This is just a way to demonstrate that kids can have fun with their families, walk to school, and be safe. It's also about health and trying to have a healthy lifestyle. Some 30 Montgomery public schools took part in the walk to school event this morning.

1:00 VO/SOT

10/20/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

MARION TB SCARE

Perry County Superintendent John Heard tells us the county Health Department found that less than 4 students came in contact with adults who had tuberculosis. Heard says that “none” of the students tested positive for an active case of TB. Because of that, no wide spread testing of students will take place, and health officials believe there is no threat of the spread of TB in the school system. Some parents in Marion County are voicing concerns about possible tuberculosis cases in the school system.

:30 CAM

10/11/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TROY FALL ALLERGIES

The month of October has brought with it beautiful fall weather. But just as the leaves fall and new trees bloom, comes not so pleasant allergies for millions of Americans. Dr. Stacey Jones says a lot of people may think they just have a cold, but a common cold goes away after seven to ten days . . . allergy season lasts about two months. Health officials say if over the counter medicine doesn’t do the trick, allergy shots are always an option.

1:30 PKG

10/28/14 – 5:00-7:00 A.M.

WOMEN’S HEALTH SEMINAR

Women in Montgomery had a chance to learn about their health at a special seminar yesterday. The city of Montgomery and Jackson Hospital partnered together on this event to help make residents more aware of their health. OBGYN Doctor Latoya Clark was on hand to answer questions and talk to women about specific health issues. She reviewed the basic screening tests for breast and cervical cancers as well as some of the misconceptions about the tests and diseases,

:30 WIPE VO

10/30/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

STATE EBOLA READINESS

The State of Alabama continues to take the threat of Ebola seriously. Governor Robert Bentley and State Health Officer Don Williamson gave an update on the state’s readiness today. Dr. Williamson said there are no cases in Alabama. They are monitoring two people who came from West Africa, but they are very low risk and not symptomatic. They are doing active monitoring where they’re contacting the patient everyday. They’re getting their temperatures checked, and there’s symptom monitoring. He said that if all of the people are compliant we don’t have to worry about quarantine.

1:10 CAM VO/SOT

11/11/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

THE SILENT BATTLE

Veterans Day is a time to pay tribute to all those who have served our country and remember their sacrifices. But for thousands of veterans, memories of service and combat don't just come once a year . . . they haunt them on a regular basis. Post traumatic stress disorder is a common problem with returning veterans and reporter Ashley Thompson sat down with several veterans who explain why that's the case.

:30 WIPE/VO

11/12/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We're joined on today's Talkback by Dr. Allen Meadows who will take your medical questions. Calls were taken at 1-800-504-4084 and 420-TALK.

4:00 GRFX/LIVE

11/13/14 – 5:00-7:00 A.M.

HEROIN DRUG

A drug called naxolone can reverse the effects of some drug overdoses. Some first responders across the country carry and use the drug to reverse overdoses, but Montgomery County Sheriff-Elect Derrick Cunningham says that comes with some liability. He said it takes emergency personnel. We're here to enforce laws. They don't go to school to be paramedics, EMTs, check blood pressure or things of this nature. So how do you know? How would you know?? If you inject somebody and they're not on heroin, what are the side effects, what are the consequences? Viewers were asked to go the stations Facebook page to comment on this issue.

1:00 VO/SOT

10/16/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

BIG STORY

Will Montgomery become the latest Alabama city to go smoke free? Montgomery City Council is proposing an ordinance to ban smoking in public places . . . and the new rule could affect local businesses, and some people are not happy about the proposed changes. The smoking ordinance currently says eating establishments must choose to be either smoking or non-smoking. If they're both, they must have the proper ventilation. Some Council members want to remove the ventilation part of the ordinance. They originally outlined the proposed changes in the ordinance at a November 4th council meeting. Supporters say it makes sense because it promotes health of residents and visitors to the city of Montgomery. City Council members want to hear from the public and asked those who would like to voice their concerns about the proposed changes to attend the November 18th Council meeting where the proposal will be put up for vote.

2:15 PKG

11/21/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

BENTLEY EBOLA

Many students will be heading home for the holidays and Governor Robert Bentley is urging colleges to identify students or teachers returning from Ebola countries in West Africa. Bentley sent out a letter to college officials around the state asking that schools provide the names of anyone planning travel to West Africa, their contact information and return dates. Students and instructors returning to Alabama from West Africa may be asked to check in daily with health officials for three weeks. There have not been any Ebola cases reported in Alabama.

:30 VO

12/1/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

WORLD AIDS DAY

Today is World AIDS Day. According to the Centers for disease Control, an estimated 35 million people are living with HIV/AIDS Worldwide. In a proclamation, President Obama urged Americans to remember those who have lost their lives to AIDS . . . and “provide support and comfort to those living with this disease.”

:30 VO

12/4/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

INEFFECTIVE FLU VACCINES

In other health news, this year’s flu vaccine may not protect against a strain of the virus that’s circulating around the country. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is alerting doctors that a flu virus strain has emerged this season that doesn’t look like the strain in this year’s flu vaccine. Health officials say it’s still important to get vaccinated since the vaccine will provide some protection against the new strain. The vaccine also appears to be a good match against other flu viruses circulating.

2:00 PKG

12/15/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

AFFORDABLE CARE DEADLINE

Today is the deadline to renew healthcare under the Affordable Care act for 2015. People who miss the deadline will not have coverage starting the first of the year. If you’re not signed up by December 15th, and don’t have health insurance come January 1st, you could face some hefty fines - \$975 or 2% of the overall household income, whichever is greater for a family, and \$325 for a single individual. U.S. officials say millions of Americans have been visiting healthcare.gov over the weekend as people scramble to find coverage before the deadline.

:40 VO

12/18/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

GOVERNOR MEDICAID PRESS CONFERENCE

Governor Bentley held a press conference today to give an update on the Medicaid transformation process. The shift creates a new structure for Medicaid to move away from a volume-based, fee-for-service environment to a payment system that emphasizes the delivery of quality health care and improved health outcomes. Under the new structure, Alabama Medicaid will partner with regional care organizations to provide services for patients at an established cost.

:45 CAM/VO

12/22/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

FLU TROUBLE

Flu season is underway, but you may not be as prepared to fight it as you may think. We're already seeing more flu like symptoms across the south than in years past. Most vaccines cover several different strains, but what could be the most dangerous one this year was left out. Many have already gotten their flu shot, but their vaccination is missing a key strain of the virus that was identified too late to be included in the vaccine manufactured for the northern hemisphere for this flu season. State Health Director, doctor Williamson says not to skip the shot though. It will still protect against other strains and could lessen the severity of the flu if you catch it.

1:00 VO/SOT

WNCF-TV LOCAL NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST: EDUCATION

10/1/14 – 5:00-7:00 A.M.

SCHOOL BOARD

From Montgomery, chaos, that's one way to describe last night's Montgomery Board of Education meeting. Here's why many people were upset. If you'd like to speak to school board members, you're given 5 minutes if you sign up the night prior to the meeting. If you sign up the day of, you're allowed 3 minutes to speak. The time limits didn't sit well with some who went over their allotted time. Six people were scheduled to speak Tuesday night about an array of topics. Two others who were not on the agenda wanted to speak as well.

2:00 PKG

10/9/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

ROCK RALLY

October is National Prevention month, and a local organization was out this morning to raise awareness. River Region ROCK, which stands for "Respect Others, Create Kindness" held a "ROCK Rally" at Garrett Elementary this morning. The pep rally included a short video on bullying, a message from one of the prevention educators from the Family Sunshine Center, a special appearance by Montgomery Biscuits Mascot Big Mo, and a performance by the Johnnie Carr Middle School cheerleaders,

:30 CAM/VO

10/15/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

The fight for Charter Schools in Alabama is once again gaining momentum. A non-profit called "black alliance for educational options" gathered last night to let their voice be heard at a town hall meeting in Montgomery. The group says it would help give low-income families options for where they want their child to attend school. Charter schools have a history of not getting a lot of support here in Alabama. It's been voted down in the legislature in the past couple of years. Alabama is one of 8 states that does not have a Charter Law.

1:00 CAM/VO

10/20/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

GOLDEN APPLE

It's time to recognize outstanding teachers for all they do in our local schools. This year's first Golden Apple Award Winner teaches kindergarten and special needs students at Coosada Elementary School in Elmore County. She tells me she never questioned if she would become a teacher. She says it's in her blood – she comes from a family of teachers and always knew she belonged in the classroom. Her co-workers say Tanya Boone volunteers after school, tutoring and mentoring students with special needs. She

believes you can do more, and says when you have the attitude that you can do more, your children will be successful and your children can learn. Every single one of them, so she just want them to know whatever they do, they can be successful if they try and give it 100%. She's been teaching there for 10 years and stays because she loves the students, the community, and her fellow teachers. Nominate teachers by going to our website alabamaneWSnetwork.net and click on the Golden Apple banner.

2:00 MINI PKG

10/22/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

ROTC COMPETITION

This morning, more than 400 high school students gathered at Greenville High School to face off in a test of skills, but the challenge isn't inside the classroom. Junior ROTC Cadets from all over our area are in Greenville today to participate in a drill competition. More than 14 schools from as far away as Mobile and Birmingham send Junior ROTC Cadets to the event. Junior ROTC stands for Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps. There are more than 1,700 programs across the country.

1:25 MINI PKG

10/27/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

GOLDEN APPLE

This week's Golden Apple Award goes to a Wilcox Central High School Aerospace teacher in Camden. But this veteran of the Air Force wears many different hats, to teach valuable lessons to his students, and it's with his cadets in Junior ROTC that he really shines. We found Major John Brown in Greenville at a State Drill Competition with those ROTC Cadets. Major Brown, who goes by the name Jab, spent 20 years in the Air Force. When he retired, another ROTC instructor came to him. Wilcox County has the highest unemployment rate in the state. Nearly half of children under 18 fall below the poverty line. But under Brown's leadership, the high school's Junior ROTC has been named a distinguished unit three years in a row, completing thousands of hours of community service, with many of its cadets, going to college, and even the Air Force Academy . . . on scholarships! After 8 years of teaching Junior ROTC, his wife tells me he smiles most when he's talking about his cadets.

2:15 MIMI PKG

11/3/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

GOLDEN APPLE

This week's Golden Apple Award takes us to Montgomery Public Schools, visiting Fitzpatrick Elementary School, and a classroom where students day their teacher makes learning fun. Behind these doors, Ms. Fluker has been teaching first graders for three years, but she says her love for teaching began way before that. She has been a teacher for sixteen years. She says it's the reward of seeing children learn that makes her love the classroom. She said she tries to come in every day with a smile on her face and to make her students excited about learning. She not only teaches, she's a leader as well

and serves as one of the school's Grade Level Chairs, sharing and collaborating with other teachers. Her students say she makes learning fun by making every day a little different. She has a lot of activities going on, so her classroom is not always real quiet. She lets her students use a lot of different manipulatives, just things to help them learn and give them real life experiences. She said as long as there are students to teach, she knows she'll be in the classroom.

2:40 PKG

11/3/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

LANIER DONATION

Sidney Lanier High School in Montgomery received a special donation thanks to members of the Sidney Lanier Class of 1974 who presented a check for \$1,200 to the principal and student body this morning. The money was raised from a class reunion they had earlier this year. Alumni say they are proud to help out the school and students when they can. The alumni said being a poet is part of the chosen few, and they all feel special and hope the students here at Lanier feel special now, and that they will use what they learned to make something of themselves later. The school was founded in 1910.

1:00 CAM/VO

11/6/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

ROBOTICS COMPETITION

Wallace Community College Selma hosted the 4th Annual Selma Best Robotics Competition today on campus. Student teams from five area schools battled it out for a chance to move on to the South's best competition at auburn University next month. Teams designed and built their own working robots for the competition. Organizers say the program is designed to boost student interest in engineering, science, math and technology. They say the competition develops teamwork and problem solving skills.

:30 CAM/VO

11/6/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

LEE ACADEMY DINNER

Several Montgomery students are getting a jump on the tech industry. Students in the information technology academy at Robert E. Lee High School are working toward their I-T certificates. The department held a dinner at the school for the students and families to recognize this important achievement. Senior La-Maya wants to encouraged her fellow students to take advantage of the opportunity . . . one can become certified without even going to college. School leaders say the certification can lead to good paying jobs for the students.

1:00 CAM/VO

11/10/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

GOLDEN APPLE

This week's Golden Apple Award goes to Mrs. Tara Battle. The teacher at Tallassee's Southside Middle School may have been shocked to see us, but her students were not. They say she goes beyond her job description to make a difference in their lives. After 12 years of teaching, she says she feels right at home in the classroom. She goes beyond the books and this year she signed on to sponsor the drama club, helping the school put on "The Gingerbread Man", the first student performance in several years. The school's principal and some of her students spoke about her commitment to teaching. The Principal said she puts in a lot of extra work to ensure the students get what they need, and are exposed to different things. Her students say she is a good teacher, and is really good at what she teaches, and they are learning a bunch of new stuff. She helps them read better, and comprehend things, especially on tests.

2:05 PKG

11/18/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

COLLEGE

One south Alabama school system is receiving a special grant, all in hopes to help more students get more scholarships and go to college. The Butler County School district is receiving the Gear Up Grant, and is one of 20 districts taking part in the seven year \$49 million dollar project. The grant includes giving students opportunities to visit colleges, attend special classes to help them improve their SAT and ACT scores, and give them the skills needed for college.

1:00 CAM/VO

11/19/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

FOREST AVENUE THANKSGIVING

This morning, all kindergarten classes traveled to the MPS Arboretum, dressed as Pilgrims and Native Americans for a re-enactment of the first Thanksgiving. The children visited six nations each offering different experiences . . . such as food, music, and customs of the first Thanksgiving. Students capped off the day by writing a personal narrative about their experience.

:30 VO

12/1/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

GOLDEN APPLE

This week's Golden Apple takes us to Alexander City Middle School where we met an eight grade teacher who spends hours outside of the classroom making sure her students aren't just learning how to read and write . . . but also to grow as young people. Monica Allen is no stranger to the classroom, she has spent 19 years as an English teacher. She spends her time with students after the bell rings as a sponsor for clubs, like the Student Government Association, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and God's Girls. She thinks the kids need to see her in an environment other than the classroom, and they need to see

her as a real person. It is the combination of great teaching in the classroom, and caring and involvement in their lives outside the classroom that students tell us makes Monica Anderson their Golden Apple Teacher this week. To nominate someone, go to our website alabamaneeds.net and fill out the nomination form.

2:00 PKG

12/2/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We were joined on today's Talkback by Superintendent of Montgomery Public Schools, Margaret Allen. Calls were taken at 1-800-504-4084 and 420-TALK. She discussed progress so far; Montgomery Mall purchase for classrooms; and the education budget.

4:30 GRFX/INTERVIEW

12/15/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

GOLDEN APPLE – COSBY

This week, the Golden Apple Award takes us to Hayneville in Lowndes County to meet a teacher who has made a huge impact not just on her students, but the entire community. Flip through almost any yearbook at Central High School and you'll see this woman who has been teaching here for 37 years – since she graduated from Alabama A&M University. Mrs. Gwendolyn Cosby said she has taught some children's Grandparents and they make it known to her by telling her you taught my Grandmamma and you're still here. She said it's great when you can continue to make a difference in a family. She has inspired many of her students to become teachers by setting a good example. We received more than 60 nominations forms for Mrs. Cosby . . . a record setting number. A co-worker and some of her students told how she tutors them in math before school, after school, whatever she could do; she really wants to see everyone become something in life; she motivates, and pushes, and believes in her students – even when they don't believe in themselves. She says retirement is in her future, but not right now.

2:25 PKG

12/16/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

ELMORE EDUCATION

There was an exciting educational announcement in Elmore County today. Central Alabama Community College will officially begin teaching classes at Stanhope Elmore High School in Millbrook at the start of the New Year. This partnership will now allow the college to hold evening classes for people in that area. The Millbrook campus now joins other campuses in Alexander City, Childersburgh and Talladega. Enrollment for the spring semester is now open. Classes begin on January 12th.

:30 CAM/VO

12/18/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

MONTGOMERY ACADEMY DONATION

Students from both the upper and middle schools sponsored the 27 residents of Brantwood Children's Home for Christmas. Each child's wish list was given to the school and students, faculty, and staff purchased their desired gifts along with lots of fun extras. The project is coordinated by the Academy's service club "HEART", and was met with enthusiastic support from the students.

:40 VO

12/22/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

ELMORE COUNTY BOE MEETING

Elmore County Deputy Superintendent Andre' Harrison has been appointed as the new Superintendent. Harrison beat out Prattville High School Principal Richard Dennis for the position, and has 22 years of experience in the Elmore County school system. He replaces longtime superintendent Dr. Jeff Langham, who accepted a position with the State Board of Education.

:40 VO/SOT

12/22/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

GOLDEN APPLE BROOKS

It's that time of the week when we honor a deserving teacher for all of their hard work. Our Golden Apple Award is in Montgomery this week. Jefferson Davis High School teacher Alik Brooks is a yearbook sponsor and activities director who takes on new challenges every day. Every school yearbook tells a story, and Ms. Brooks helps her students tell theirs. It's a big school, and a big job, but she doesn't stop there – she also oversees dozens of organizations. She showed us baskets organizations that students put together that will go to homeless students and students in need this season. Nominated by students – they gave their thanks to her for inspiring them to help others as she does.

1:40 MINI PKG

12/29/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

LAMP M-TECH UPDATE

Montgomery civic leaders and the County Commission have agreed to buy part of the Montgomery Mall to house two of the County's schools. It is a backup plan in case the school board is unable to pay for the property. The County Commission voted 4 to 1 to purchase the property from the Board of Education. The city is contributing 60% of that money; the county 40%. The total amount for the whole project is about \$33 million. Board members say they hope to have students in class at the Mall starting fall 2016.

1:00 CAM/VO

**WNCN-TV LOCAL NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST:
ECONOMY/JOBS/INDUSTRY**

10/7/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

EPA STUDY

Governor Bentley has joined a group opposed to proposed EPA energy regulations. The 60 plus Association says the resulting energy price increases would disproportionately affect seniors. The association says the new regulations could result in raising electricity prices for Alabama residents by more than 20%, or about \$25 per month for the average customer. The group says low and fixed income seniors are among the most vulnerable to the changing rates.

:30 VO

10/8/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

ADAMS DRUG NEW LOCATION

Two locally owned businesses are opening locations at the site of the old Bruno's grocery store. A grocery store called Renfro's Foodland cut the ribbon on a new store at Chantilly Corner shopping Center in Montgomery. Adams Drugs will operate its 11th location inside the new grocery store. The businesses will employ some 100 people.

:30 CAM/VO

10/9/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

BLACK CHAMBER

About 56% of Montgomery's population is Black, and is one reason two area businessmen are doing their part to give back to the community. They started by creating the Black Chamber of Commerce, an effort that links business owners to the corporate world, all while making their mark on the community. Greg Calhoun, CEO of Calhoun enterprises, and Dr. Alfred Seawright, CEO of the Medical Place are the founding members of what will become Montgomery's first black Chamber of Commerce, a new organization that hopes to teach local business owners how to make connections, all while improving the community. They want to teach business owners to work, and to build bridges. They will make sure that people are educated and that they have jobs. Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Seawright hope to work together with the Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce to bring diversity to companies in Montgomery.

2:05 PKG

10/29/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALLASSEE AEROSPACE COMPANY

The city of Tallassee is expanding its Aerospace business and bringing with it new jobs. The company works with others like G.E. to inspect new airframe parts. Arcadia is based out of Florida and has now expanded into California and Alabama. The company's president says he chose the site to be close to GKN Aerospace, housed right next door to

the facility. Mayor Payne says he hopes this is just the start of expanding industry in Tallassee. Arcadia could more than double the size of their facility if things go well, and bring in almost 50 employees.

1:00 CAM VO/SOT

10/30/14 – 5:00-7:00 A.M.

NEW GROCERY STORE

It was once a Food World offering South Montgomery residents a convenient place to shop. But it has closed down, and since that time nothing has takes its place until now. Mayor Todd Strange says it's good news and the good news is "Cash Saver Food Outlet". There is already one on the Atlanta Highway, and this will be one of 21 in the family owned grocery businesses spread out through Alabama and Mississippi. South Boulevard neighbors are welcoming it with open arms. The owner of the grocery chain says his grandfather opened the first store in 1945, and the business is founded on faith in God, country, and fellowman. The store is expected to open by the end of next year.

1:30 PKG

11/12/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

COAL JOBS

Alabama's coal industry supports about 16,000 jobs, and some say those jobs and your power bills are being threatened by the EPA. Alabama Association President George Barber says the new regulations from the EPA will hurt the industry, and it is important for everyone in Alabama. Anybody in the state who has a power bill is going to be affected and it's so important for everybody to understand . . . you don't want to see the coal miners lose their jobs, but you don't want to have to pay for that. The new EPA regulations would require coal plants to decrease carbon dioxide production by about 30%.

1:40 CAM VO/SOT

11/13/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

HWASHIN EXPANSION

The city of Greenville has a very close relationship with Hyundai because one of its key suppliers makes its home in the city. Now that supplier is looking to add more jobs that will help Greenville in more ways than one. This is the future site of a multi-million dollar expansion for Hwashin, a big supplier to Hyundai and Kia. Greenville City officials and Hwashin gathered to announce the supplier will invest close to \$34 million to expand their facility. They are building a 100,000 square foot \$6 million building. Another \$28 million in equipment will go into that building. It will add 50 new jobs to Greenville. Mayor Dexter McLendon says it's not only good for Hyundai, but it's also a big step for the city.

1:45 MINI PKG

11/14/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

EASTERN AIRPORTS CONFERENCE

Several major airlines and leaders from more than 40 airports were in town this week. The three day conference wrapped up today, but the new connections could mean big business for Montgomery in the future. Just one year ago, the Montgomery Regional airport was suffering from a serious drop in travelers . . . about 20,000 fewer people were coming through the gates to fly, but things are turning around. The airport is coming off a four month of double digit growth which they attribute to the Chamber and the partnership between the Montgomery Airport and the Chamber of Commerce. Sixel Consulting Group says choosing Montgomery was an easy choice. Their goal is to pick up more direct flights in the future where Montgomery's top destinations are, and partner with airlines in those focused cities.

1:50 PKG

11/21/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

BOEYING LAYOFFS

The unemployment rate may be dropping, but at least 120 workers in Huntsville could see job losses. Boeing is issuing layoff notices today to 60 aerospace workers, including 50 based in Huntsville. Another 70 contract employees will be sent back to their own companies for possible layoffs. Boeing expects to find jobs for roughly 300 other workers who have been involved in the design of NASA's new Space Launch System. It was designed in Alabama but will be produced in Louisiana.

:30 CAM/V0

11/24/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

JOBS

One South Alabama industry is expanding, which in turn means more jobs, and a boost to the local economy. REF is an industrial company in the city of Greenville that makes parts for cars and homes. Leaders say the company is ready to expand. That expansion will bring at least 30 more jobs to the city. Not only is the industry expanding, it also bought this building from the city, and now city officials say this is a major step in the right direction to show that the city of Greenville is bringing more jobs back to the area. The 85,000 square foot building is going to be sold to them for about \$280,000, which is what the city owes on the building. REF will get the building for a good price, and Greenville will get out of a debt that they won't have anymore . . . then can add jobs at the same time.

1:50 PKG

11/27/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

INDUSTRY GRANTA state grant will help create 300 new jobs in Lowndes County. Governor Bentley is awarding a \$600,000 grant to the city of Fort Deposit. The town will use the money to buy a building for an expansion for Cowel Weldparts, Inc. The company makes impact beams for the Hyundai Plant here in Montgomery.

:30 CAM/VO

12/16/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

SUCCESS STARTS HERE

Today was all about businesses that have been in Montgomery and are continuing to expand. They have put a lot of money back into the community. While it's important to bring in new businesses to Montgomery, the Chamber of Commerce knows it's crucial to keep existing businesses here as well. Looking back at 2014, the Chamber highlighted 19 businesses that expanded throughout the year – and included about \$90m million in capital investments. They said the city has maintained 5,700 jobs because nobody that is making investments in the community is going to cut their jobs along the way. The list included Hyundai; Lear Corporation (who expanded their business, hired more employees, and enlarged their buildings so they were able to invest \$1.2 billion to their business); Whitfield Foods that's been in Montgomery more than a century; Ozark Safety Services, Mobis Alabama; and Burt Steel Incorporated were recognized as well.

2:20 PKG

12/19/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

AL UNEMPLOYMENT

The November unemployment rate was down in Alabama and 40 other states. The state's 6% rate was the lowest in some six years, down .3% from the month before. It's still slightly above the U.S. average of 5.8%. Wilcox County has the worst jobless rate at 12.2%.

:30 CAM/VO

12/30/14 – 5-5:30 P.M.

EASTERN BLVD DEVELOPMENT

The Eastern Blvd area has seen several stores pop up over the last few months, and several more will be coming. This part of town has seen a lot of businesses close up shop over the last few years, but it's hard to miss all of the construction and 'coming soon' signs as you drive down Eastern Blvd. Lots of new retail is going on. They are rehabbing some existing space to get ready for new stores and then a couple of new construction. It's all private driven; the city hasn't been involved in any of it. Gander Mountain is one of the new stores, and a new grocery store should take over the old Food World further down the boulevard.

1:40 CAM/PKG

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

10/6/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

TROY BLAKENEY

It's the beginning of the end of an era at Troy University. Today, head football coach Larry Blakeney formally announced he will retire at the end of the season. 24 years at Troy . . . 45 years in coaching . . . he said it's time for him to move on, and with that this is Larry Blakeney's final season. Current and former players say "the guy's a legend". He's led his teams to 175 wins, 5 Sunbelt titles, 5 bowl appearances, during the 1AA days, 7 out of 8 years in the playoffs. Athletic director John Hartwell and Coach Blakeney say this doesn't mean the end of his time at Troy. Hear more about what role he will play, and also about the search for a new head coach.

2:20 PKG

10/14/14 – 5:00-7:00 A.M.

HOLIDAY MARKET

The holidays are right around the corner and the Junior League of Montgomery is gearing up for their annual Holiday Market. Joining me here with more is Lindsey Jinright, Chairman of the Holiday market. Good morning!

3:00 LIVE INTERVIEW

10/14/11 – 5:30-6 p.m.

SEVERE WEATHER PACKAGE

Millions of Americans are affected by power outages from severe storms at any time of the day. Sometimes power can be out for a few minutes or a few days. Pioneer Electric has an app for that. The company developed a new app that will let its customers know what the weather forecast will be in case of the threat of a major storm. But one of the biggest features of this app is people can actually report power outages. At the end of the day, the biggest priority for EMA and electrical companies is your safety.

2:00 PKG

10/15/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

LOOP MUSIC FESTIVAL

True divine Baptist Church is looking to improve people's mind, body and soul with an upcoming music festival. Benita Edwards and Luella Giles told us more about the event.

3:00 GRFX/INTERVIEW

10/25/14 – 10-10:30 P.M.

RIVER REGION PRAYER WALK

About 250 people gathered at the Union Station train shed this morning with a mission to pray. This is the third annual prayer walk, and it is growing in participation each year. Participants walked to different stops around downtown, focusing prayers towards different groups from first responders to local politicians. Organizers say the event will continue to be non-denominational, and open to everyone in the community. They are already looking forward to the fourth annual prayer walk.

1:36 MIMI PKG

10/30/14 – 5:00-6:00 A.M.

WEST SIDE HOUSING

A Montgomery businessman says he wants to develop a residential subdivision on the west side of town. Alfred Seawright wants to build on Mobile Drive off of Highway 80 . . . homes that would sell for as much at \$140,000. He says there are too many dilapidated homes in the area, that they drive potential buyers away. City officials say tearing down dilapidated homes can take a long time.

:45 CAM/VO

11/13/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

AUTAUGA SHELTER

Thousands of strays come into the Prattville-Autauga Humane Society every year, and the numbers are growing. Now there may be help. The shelter fill finally have more space to house those homeless animals. The Humane Society is constructing a brand new building that will add about 28,000 square feet, doubling the amount of kennel space. The Humane Society raised almost all of the \$173,000 of what the project will cost, and is asking the County Commission to help make up the \$16,000 difference.

:45 CAM/VO

10/30/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We were joined on today's Talkback by Chief Deputy Derrick Cunningham with the Montgomery County Sheriff's office to talk about Halloween Safety. Calls were taken at 1-800-504-4084 or 420-TALK.

4:30 GRFX/LIVE

11/6/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TRENHOLM FALL FESTIVAL

Students at Trenholm State College in Montgomery are getting back into the spirit of giving. They held a "Day of Caring" Fall Festival. People brought blankets, coats, and non-perishable items to donate to the needy during the holiday season. The American Red Cross was even on hand to receive blood donations. All items collected at the

festival will be given to the Mid-Alabama Coalition for the Homeless, Montgomery Area Food Bank, and the Family Sunshine Center.
:30 CAM/VO

11/10/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

FAMILY FEUD

It's an exciting day as Amy Dicks' family and co-workers gather around to watch "Family Feud." The show was filmed back in July, and Amy Dicks and the rest of the family have been keeping a secret for several months on how they did on the show. Well, today the episode aired and Amy held a viewing party at Wells Fargo here in Montgomery where she works so her family and co-workers could all see how they did. The family was on the show for three days. You can watch the Dicks family as they go on to play as defending champions tomorrow at 3 P.M. on ABC Montgomery.

11/11/24 – 5:30-6 P.M.

MONTGOMERY VETERANS DAY PARADE

For the fifth year in a row, the city of Montgomery hosted a parade downtown to celebrate Veterans Day. Hundreds of people lined the streets to watch. Alabama is home to over 400,000 veterans and we see even more military men and women come through Maxwell Air Force Base. That makes today mean even more to people in Montgomery. As trumpets and tubas paraded down Monroe Street, there were plenty of veterans watching from the sidelines. Bart Dingler served from Vietnam all the way through Desert Storm. While Veterans Day means a lot to him, it also reminds him of others who never came home. This just helps to reinforce it and make people understand that there are a lot of people that sacrificed a lot and sometimes made the ultimate sacrifice. We owe them a debt of gratitude.

1:35 MINI PKG.

11/12/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

CHISHOLM PLAYGROUND

The Boys and Girls Club of Chisholm is getting a new playground thanks to a national non-profit group. It is being put together by Kaboom, a non-profit group that brings playgrounds to the United States along with other big names like ESPN, Disney, and Hands on River Regions. Today was day one of unloading the playground equipment. They are also planning to put in pathways, benches, and picnic tables. This project will give access to over 150 kids not just in the Boys and Girls Club, but also those in the community. On Friday, over 200 volunteers will build the playground in just 6 hours, starting at 8:30 A.M., and the ribbon cutting will be at 2:30 P.M.

1:00 CAM/VO

11/13/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

COLD WEATHER PREPS

The Salvation Army already has 78 people staying here, and that's already over capacity. But as it gets colder, they tell me they're expecting at least 5 new people a night. Temperatures are dropping, and a freeze is in store for the River Region. This is something many people aren't looking forward to. Especially those who have nowhere to go. Johnny Spredlin said it hurts . . . if you don't have the right gloves on, if you don't have something to cover up with . . . you're going to feel pain. For people like Johnny who don't want to feel the pain of the frigid cold, the Salvation Army is the only emergency shelter open in the River Region, and they are scrambling to make more room. The Salvation Army opened its first ever warming station. People can have a hot meal, snacks, and a cup of coffee - - - all at no charge. Many say this is a much needed blessing. And Johnny said for now this is his home because it's a warm place, and it beats being stuck on the streets.

1:35 MINI PKG

11/14/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

SPACEHEATER SAFETY

This is the time of year that firefighters dread the most. That's because as temperatures drop, the number of space heaters being used goes up, and so does the number of fires that fire crews respond to. Firefighters say they haven't had any fires caused by space heaters since last winter, but this is just the calm before the storm. So as you're pulling yours out from the closet . . . here are some tips to help keep you safe. Keep heaters 3-5 feet away from anything that can catch fire; plug the heater directly in the outlet; make sure the heater has an automatic off switch if the heater falls over is running for an extended period of time; keep away from any combustibles, and piles of clothing; make sure to check how much power your extension cord can hold before using one. Firefighters are also urging people not to use ovens or stoves to heat a home.

1:30 CM/VO/SOT

11/17/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

MAGICAL TOY DRIVE

This morning, we kicked off our "Alabama News Network's Magical Christmas Toy Drive." From now until December 15th, we are collecting toys for the Salvation Army to give to children throughout the area who might otherwise not have any presents to unwrap on Christmas morning. The toys should be new and unwrapped, so that the Salvation Army can match the toys with the kids. You can buy the toys at the official Magical Christmas Toy Drive Headquarters – which is Target at East Chase, or anywhere else. So make sure you're watching Alabama news Network Monday to find out more about our Toy Drive, and what you can do to make a child's Christmas brighter.

2:30 LIVE STUDIO

11/18/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TURKEY DAY CLASSIC

ASU has a full week of events planned leading up to the homecoming game, but not everyone is happy with the change in tradition, and students have mixed feelings on messing with traditions. They said it's a little sad not to see them to play their biggest rivals, as it would be a more exciting game. The game that was played on Thanksgiving Day for years is now being played on Saturday, and there has been a stiff drop in attendance after ASU switched opponents to play Stillman instead of Tuskegee. 30,000 fans showed up when the Classic was played in 2013. Only 14,000 showed up when they played Stillman for the first time. Officials say the switch is because the students are their number one asset, and for the past 90 years, a majority of them have been gone home for the holidays. President Boyd said the Turkey day Classic needs to be centered on the students.

2:20 PKG

11/19/14 – 5:00-7:00 A.M.

KIDS COUNT

A new study on the well being of Alabama's children said we have improved, but there's still a lot to work on. Voices for Alabama's Children released their Kids Count Data Book today. The state ranked 44th in the nation for children's well being. The report looks at a lot of factors, including education, health, and poverty. The study found that Alabama's education is moving in the right direction, with higher graduation rates and test scores. But Alabama still has trouble in one area in particular. If you would like to look through the Data book, you can find it on their website at alavoices.org.

1:00 VO/SOT

11/20/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

KETTLE CAMPAIGN

The Salvation Army is kicking off it's annual Red Kettle Campaign, their biggest fundraiser of the year. The money you give goes to feed, clothe and shelter local families, not just this Christmas, but year round. For the 3rd year, Alabama News Network is teaming up with the Salvation Army to help meet those goals. This year they are setting a big goal to raise \$300,000, and they need your help to do so. Sponsor signs are still available for businesses that want to make a contribution. To find out more about the Salvation Army or how you can help, visit our website, alabamaneews.net.

11/24/14 – 5:00-7:00 A.M.

PRAYER VIGIL

Montgomery area ministers gathered to pray for peace on Sunday at Wright Brothers Park. Representatives from Alabama Crimestoppers attended as well to remember the victims of violent crimes and their families. Crimestopper Director Tony Garrett says it's important to remember the victims during the holiday season. Prayer is very strong and is something that everyone can do to help. He said it's wonderful to see the community

and these pastors, ministers, and people of the community come out and say we are going to do something about crime in our area. We are just praying for a crime free holiday, Thanksgiving, Christmas, as well as 365 days of the year 2015. For information about helping victims, or Alabama Crimestoppers, go to the website at 215stop.com.

1:00 CAM VO/SOT

11/24/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We're joined on today's Talkback by State Fire Marshall Ed Paulk . . . and we are talking about holiday fire safety. Calls were taken at 1-800-504-4084 or 420-TALK.

4:00 GRFX/LIVE

11/26/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

TALKBACK

We're joined on today's Talkback by Clay Ingram with Triple A who is here to answer any questions you may have about Thanksgiving travel.

1:10 GRFX/LIVE

11/26/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

BUSY TRAVEL DAY

It is Thanksgiving Eve, which makes today the busiest travel day of the year. Here in Montgomery, you've probably seen roadways packed with cars heading toward their destinations. We're right off Interstate 85 right now and so far, so good. No doubt there are more cars than usual out today but it is moving well. Chief Meteorologist Ashley McDonald tells us there will be no rain in our area to hinder your travel plans. And State Troopers are reminding everyone to go the speed limit and buckle up. There have been some flight cancellations around the country because of wintry conditions up north. We'll tell you how Montgomery's airport is faring tonight at 10.

:45

11/27/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

CHARITY THANKSGIVING

During this time of year there are so many people that feel down and depressed and ready to give up. That's why Greater Praise worship Center held their first annual Thanksgiving community dinner for anyone in the area . . . as well as for those in need. They said they were going to let the people feast and take food to those who can't get out. Not only did the church provide food, they also gave out shampoo, lotion, and other important essentials. Those attending were welcome to pick out items. They had brand new uniforms sent over for young ladies going back to school. The "Jesus Care Ministry", and "Whom It May Concern" non-profit, also partnered with the church.

1:30 PKG.

12/1/14 – 5:00-7:00 A.M.

BUS BOYCOT

Today is the 59th anniversary of the Montgomery Bus Boycott . . . a Civil Rights Era event that was sparked by Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat on a city bus for a white passenger on December 1st 1955. An anniversary event is being sponsored today by Alabama State University. Next year's 60th anniversary is expected to lure tourists to the city, especially since next year will also be the 50th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery March.

:40 VO

12/3/14 – 5:30-6 P.M.

FAITH MATTERS

Presents and parties are a great way to spread some Christmas cheer . . . but some church pastors in Selma say knowing the true reason for the season is the only way to spread Christmas joy. The streets and corridors are beginning to be all decked out with holiday cheer, but while the town of Selma may look ready to celebrate Christmas, local pastors that we spoke to say Christ is their focus all year round. "It's the story of salvation and the gospel that started even before that but came to life on that day at Christmas." They say the season of giving provides the prefect platform to touch people's lives by showing them the love of Christ. The Pastor of Crosspoint Christian Church say they support several groups and agencies that have toy drives and giveaways and feeding programs that meet people's needs at the ground level. Freedom church gives food at Thanksgiving and Christmas along with spreading the gospel. They say the world has become de-sensitized to the true meaning of Christmas, and they try to keep that in front of people all of the time.

1:50 CAM/PKG

12/15 – 10-10:35 P.M.

TOY DRIVE WRAP

For the past month Alabama News Network has worked to make Christmas a little brighter for needy children in our area. Our Magical Christmas Toy Drive wrapped up today, and as you can see, there are no more toys here in the vault. They have all been shipped over to the Salvation Army for kids in our area this Christmas morning. Piles and piles of toys stacked high were all loaded up. Major Walter Strong said that he was overwhelmed and ecstatic. Folks from the Salvation Army, our partners from United Food and Fuel, Blue Water Broadcasting, Capital Hyundai, and McDonalds helped up load up the toys and ship them to the Salvation Army. McDonalds also presented the Salvation Army with a check for \$1,000. 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students at McKee Middle School collected toys and money to donate. They say they like to help the less fortunate. We couldn't have done it without many of you, so to all of you we say thank you and Merry Christmas!

2:25 PKG

12/19/14 – 10-10:35 P.M.

CHRISTMAS PARADE

Another Capital City Christmas Parade is in the books. Despite the rain, hundreds of spectators came out to watch floats make their way down Dexter Avenue. It's the most wonderful time of the year! Christmas is next week, and people were in high spirits downtown tonight for Montgomery's Annual Parade. Montgomery Mayor Todd Strange began the parade which started at the front of the Capitol. Spectators didn't let the rain stop them from coming to enjoy the parade. Several bands marched in the parade, playing holiday tunes, and there were a record number of floats in tonight's parade. The parade is growing bigger each year.

2:20 PKG

**WNCF
COMMUNITY CALENDAR
FOURTH QUARTER, 2014**

October 1-4, 2014

Stars of the Industry Regional Bartending Competition – Auburn Hotel and Conference Ctr.

Old Alabama Town Revue – Old Alabama Town, Montgomery

“Rent” Play at ASU – ASU’s Fine Arts Center

Alabama National Fair – Garrett Coliseum, Montgomery

The Alabama Folklife Association – Alabama Department of Archives and History & Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

House of Holidays – FUMC, Wetumpka

Octoberfest in Capitol Heights – Vickers Park, Montgomery

Montgomery Area Down Syndrome “Buddy Walk” – Faulkner University, Montgomery

October 6 – 19, 2014

Alabama National Fair – Garrett Coliseum, Montgomery

Business Planning Seminar – 600 South Court St., Montgomery

60 Minute Coffee, AUM Wellness Center

5th Annual Farm To Fork Food – Farm At Hampstead, Montgomery

Artists On Tap – Capital City Club

No Puts, No Glory Cancer Wellness Fnd. Fundraiser – Riverwalk Stadium

Art In Concert – Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

Montgomery Humane Society Presents Blood Fest – Montgomery Humane Society

Inner City Evangelism Weekend Outreach – Patterson Court, Montgomery

Diary of Black Men – Montgomery Performing Arts Center

Chicago, the Broadway Musical – Montgomery Performing Arts Center

Downtown Business Association Meeting – Capital City Club

Creatures of the Night – Alabama Nature Center

Week of November 3, 2014

Business Planning Seminar – 600 S. Court St.

60 Minute Coffee – Guardian Credit Union, Montgomery

Tuskegee University Electric Vehicle Transportation Center Day – Tuskegee University

Fall Exhibition At The Museum – Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

Montgomery Area Of Commerce Point of Light Awards Reception – Union Station, Montgomery

American Cancer Society's Special Spirits – Montgomery Country Club

The Forum's 32nd Annual Economic Summit – Wynlakes Golf and Country Club

Multi-Tasking Women's Seminar – Capital City Club

Veteran's Day All Week At The Montgomery Zoo – Montgomery Zoo

Week of November 10, 2014

Montgomery River Region Veterans Day Parade – Downtown Montgomery

A Veterans Day Celebration At Old Alabama Town – 301 Columbus St., Montgomery

City of Prattville Will Honor Veterans on November 11th – Autauga County Courthouse

Veteran's Day All Week At The Montgomery Zoo – Montgomery Zoo

Veterans Day Brunch – Capital City Club

Veterans Day Gymnastics and Tumbling Clinic

Sesame Street “Make A New Friend” – Montgomery Performing Arts Center

Capitol Sounds Concert Band Presents Fall Concert – Montgomery City Auditorium

2015 Miss Alabama and Miss Teen Alabama Pageant – Montgomery Performing Arts Center

Eastdale Express’s Santa’s Magical Arrival On Ice – Eastdale Mall

Prattville Way Off Broadway Theatre Presents Improv Night – Cultural Arts Bldg., downtown Prattville

Season’s Greetings Parade – The Shoppes At Eastchase

First Steps: The Inaugural Concert of ASU’s BFA Dance Program – Barlow Theatre, ASU Campus

The Firefly Night Run – Alabama Nature Center – Lanark Pavilion, Millbrook, AL

Week of November 17, 2014

Business Planning Seminar, 600 S. Court St., Montgomery

The Harlem String Quartet, Crosby Theatre, Troy, AL

Beaux & Belles Square House Open House/Dance Lessons – 2200 Poplar St., Montgomery

Chamber Orientation – Montgomery Chamber of Commerce

Veterans OEF/OIF Caregivers Support Group – Frazer UMC

Architreasures 2014: Food For Thought – Dept. of Archives & History, Montgomery

Artist Market Preview Party – Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

Business After Hours – Marqurette’s Exquisite Jewelry, Montgomery

5th Annual Artist Market – Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

Central Alabama Contra Dancers – 2201 Chestnut St., Montgomery

A Christmas Carol – Alabama Shakespeare Festival

Week of November 24, 2014

A Christmas Carol – Alabama Shakespeare Festival

Blood Drive at Taylor Crossing – Taylor Crossing Animal Hospital

Gymstar Day Camp – United Gymstars and Cheer, Brewbaker Blvd., Montgomery

Moscow Ballet Presents The Great Russian Nutcracker – Montgomery Performing Arts Centre

Prattville Christmas Tree Lighting – Musgrove Fountain & Heritage Park, Prattville

Beaux & Belles Square House Open House/Dance Lessons – 2200 Poplar St., Montgomery

Jazz Jam Session – Aviator Bar, Montgomery

Business Planning Seminar, 600 S. Court St., Montgomery

An Eclectic Christmas – 1733 ‘Claude Rd., Eclectic, AL

Benefitting Baptist Hospice - Baptist Health Presents Steven Curtis Chapman and Special Guests – Montgomery Performing Arts Centre

Week of December 1, 2014

Business Planning Seminar, 600 S. Court St., Montgomery

An Eclectic Christmas – 1733 ‘Claude Rd., Eclectic, AL

Benefitting Baptist Hospice - Baptist Health Presents Steven Curtis Chapman and Special Guests – Montgomery Performing Arts Centre

Christchurch Candlelight Harpsichord Concert – Christchurch Sanctuary, Vaughn Rd., Montgomery

Tree Lighting At Hampstead – Hampstead Town Center

Pet Photos With Santa – Eastdale Mall

60 Minute Coffee – Capitol Hill Rehab First

Christmas Lights Festival – Montgomery Zoo

Gingerbread Village Unveiling – The Hotel At Auburn

Leadership emerge Montgomery Holiday Party – AUM Center For Lifelong Learning

Ola Alabama Town Holiday Open House – Old Alabama Town, Montgomery

Martin Luther King Drive Neighborhood Plan – North Highland Community Ctr.,
Prattville, AL

Annual Father Daughter Diamond Princess Ball – Ware Farley Hood House,
Montgomery

3rd Annual Tacky Sweater Charity Christmas Party – Rock Bottom American Pub,
Montgomery

Annual Jingle Bell Run/Walk for Arthritis – Huntingdon College

A Christmas Carol – Alabama Shakespeare Festival

Week of December 8, 2014

Governor's Mansion Candlelight Tours – 1142 S. Perry St., Montgomery

Montgomery Chamber of Commerce's 142nd Annual Meeting – Renaissance
Montgomery Hotel and Spa at the Convention Center

Beaux & Belles Square House Open House/Dance Lessons – 2200 Poplar St.,
Montgomery

2014 Christmas On The Coosa – Wetumpka, AL

Montgomery Public Schools' Middle School Choirs Annual Christmas Concert –
Aldersgate UMC, Montgomery

Business After Hours – Charlotte's Jewelry

It's A Wonderful Life, A Live Radio Play – Cloverdale Playhouse

Christmas Lights Festival – Montgomery Zoo

Prattville Community Chorus and Prattville Pops Join For Christmas Around The World
– Doster Center, Downtown Prattville

Breakfast With Santa Benefitting Child Protect – Panera Bread, EastChase

Capitol Heights By Candlelight – South Capitol Parkway

Elf Chaser 5K At Hampstead – Hampstead Lake

Capital of Dreams Christmas Parade – Downtown Montgomery

A Christmas Carol – Alabama Shakespeare Festival

Scale Back Alabama – Statewide Weight Loss Program @ www.scalebackalabama.com

Week of December 15, 2014

Holiday Tour of the Alabama Governor's Mansion – 1142 S. Perry St., Montgomery

Montgomery Symphony Orchestra's Classical Season Concert III

Business Planning Seminar – 600 S. Court St., Montgomery

Joe Thomas Jr's 3rd Guitar Pull, Cloverdale Playhouse

Montgomery Public Schools High School Choirs Annual Christmas Concert – Frazer UMC

Teddy Bear Tea – The Hotel at Auburn University

Montgomery Ballet Presents The Nutcracker – Davis Theatre

Eggnog and Fruitcake – Wetumpka Depot Players – Wetumpka, AL

Christmas Lights Festival – Montgomery Zoo

Fun At Lowder Regional Library – 2590 Bell Road

Capital City Christmas Parade – Downtown Montgomery

Elf Tuck-In – The Hotel at Auburn University

“The Longest Night Service” – Frazer UMC

Week of December 22, 2014

Gymstar Day Camps – United Gymstars and Cheer – 6100 Brewbaker Blvd.

2014 Holidays In The Studio – Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

A Christmas Carol – Al Shakespeare Festival

Live & Listen's Christmas Jam – The Warehouse At Alley Station

Saturday Jam Sessions – Rose House At Old Alabama Town, Downtown Montgomery

Sundays at One – Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

New Year's Eve Ball – Wetumpka Civic Center

Scale Back Alabama -

Statewide Weight Loss Program @ www.scalebackalabama.com

Week of September 22, 2014

Family Day – Alabama Family Rights Association

Idea Share – Ampersand, 111 Washington, Ave, Montgomery

Dementia Day Care – Memorial Presbyterian Church

Business After Hours – Shashy's Bakery & Fine Foods

Ballet and The Beasts - Montgomery Zoo and Mann Wildlife Museum

The Lion, The With and the Wardrobe – The Cloverdale Playhouse

Confucius Day – Taylor Center, AUM Campus

Annual Yoga Marathon – Hogan's Gym, Montgomery

Taste of the River Region – Renaissance Hotel and Conference Center

Week of December 22, 2014

Diversity Summit - R Renaissance Hotel and Spa at the Convention

The Autauga County Fall Festival – Mac Gray Park Fairgrounds