

2010
Problems and Needs Report
Fourth Quarter
KTTC

Issues and Programs Report
Fourth Quarter 2010

KTTC airs many broadcasts that contain stories dealing with the problems and important issues of the communities we serve. Listed below, by problem and need category, are topics of those stories that were broadcast during this quarter

2010 LISTING OF PROBLEMS AND NEEDS

1. Economic & Downtown Development/Jobs/Tourism
2. Political/Governmental
3. Health Care Developments
4. Education
5. Crime Prevention & Domestic Violence
6. Elderly/Handicapped/Minority Groups/Racism
7. Environment
8. Youth
9. Substance Abuse

2010 4th Quarter Issues and Programs Report - KTTC NewsCenter

1. Economic & Downtown Development/Jobs/Tourism

10-19 Now that the Minnesota Legislature has approved 80-million dollars in disaster recovery money... many flood victims are finally starting to understand what kind of help is available. As Fanna Haile-Selassie tells us, many homeowners who want to rebuild are hoping it's enough.

10-21 The holidays are still a ways off and you may not be doing your shopping quite yet. But retailers are starting the hiring process to prepare for the season. Aubrey Helms joins us live with the story.

10-27 Some business owners may be faced with relocating depending on what Mn/DOT chooses for the highway 43 bridge in Winona. The bridge is set to be rehabilitated and/or replaced in the summer of 2014.

11-18 According to the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development for the month of September... Mower County had a 5.5-percent unemployment rate... that figure was slightly higher in the city of Austin, where unemployment was at 6.2 - percent. The real problem though, is finding signs that read "Now Hiring."

11-24 Can you imagine getting a pay check twice as big as what you get now? Well that's what happened at the Hormel plant in Austin today. This is the 72nd year the holidays have come early at Hormel, in the form of a bonus check, to 15-hundred employees.

12-4 Take a walk downtown and you may notice 1st Avenue in Rochester looking a little different. The new skyway is part of the 318 Commons Project. It will run diagonally from the 318 Commons building to the parking ramp. The project costs about 1-point-1 million dollars and is being paid for partly by the city.

12-7 There is still a possibility tonight that high speed passenger rail could come thru Rochester. The Minnesota Department of Transportation is hosting a meeting at this hour to gather public input on all possible rail routes between Chicago and St. Paul. Katie Lange joins us live at the Mayo Civic Center this evening.

12-17 This Christmas, gift givers may be splurging more than previous years. Many reports have been coming out, with retailers claiming jewelry sales are up from last year which may be a sign that the economy is bouncing back. Lasker Jewelers in Rochester is seeing a five to ten percent increase in sales compared to 2009.

12-21 On Friday, we first told you how a few hundred people in Cannon Falls were losing their jobs. Tonight it appears that former Fil-Mor Express employees will have a Merry Christmas after all. Dart-co Incorporated, a freight trucking company, is encouraging all former Fil-Mor employees to apply for jobs.

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12-23 A major Midwest company is growing which means another sign of possible economic recovery. Kwik Trip is expected to add about 2-thousand jobs companywide. Four hundred of those are expected in its hometown of La Crosse, Wisconsin.

12-23 Have you ever left the Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport and suddenly found yourself wondering "which way to Rochester?" Tonight some local leaders are pushing to have signs installed at the airport to reduce that confusion.

12-28 You may be digging deeper into your pocket if you travel this New Year's weekend. With gas at 3.05 many are wondering what the New Year will bring for gas prices. Heidi Wigdahl has the story.

2. Political/Governmental

10-4 The Rochester City Council is revisiting a hot issue tonight. After being tabled last month... the council is once again talking about rental properties. NewsCenter's Aubrey Helms joins us live at the Olmsted County Government Center with the latest.

10-22 Earlier this afternoon.. the three candidates for Minnesota governor squared off... in another debate, this time in Rochester. KTTC's Tom Overlie moderated the conversation. Chris Conte has more from the event.

10-23 Election day *is* now less than two weeks away and candidates are going door-to-door in hopes of swaying those last few voters.

10-25 Republicans in Olmsted county were making some noise this morning... in a rally featuring Governor Tim Pawlenty and Gubernatorial candidate Tom Emmer. Minnesota's Democratic gubernatorial candidate, Mark Dayton, is spending the afternoon on the farm in southeast Minnesota today. Dayton is visiting the Flavor Ridge organic farm near Altura for a rally to address farmers and other supporters.

10-27 How many times in the past few weeks have you wanted to change the channel because of negative political campaign ads? Right now politicians are trying everything to get your vote. But do those ads work? Chris Conte takes a closer look.

10-28 On Wednesday, Tim Walz made a stop in Rochester... and now his opponent is in Kasson today... Newscenter's Aubrey Helms is live in Kasson for Randy Demmer's "Heartland Values Tour."

10-28 Lanesboro's city council hopes voters will say yes to a point-five percent sales tax that would apply only to the town. Voters will see the proposal on the ballot next week.

10-28 On election day, whether its a national race .. or a local race.. your vote matters. Tonight we're profiling the mayor's race in the city of Austin.

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10-29 Twelve school districts across southeastern Minnesota have referendums on their ballots. They are requesting to either maintain current funding or increase funding for upcoming years.

10-29 Candidates are gearing up for the last few days of campaigning. Today, we sat down with the two candidates running for Olmsted County Sheriff.

11-1 The Republican candidate for governor says there's not a lot you can do in the last 24 hours before the election... but "this is the time that counts." Tom Emmer made another campaign stop in Rochester... one of 19 planned today throughout the state. Independence Party gubernatorial candidate Tom Horner made several stops around the state including Rochester, Austin and Albert Lea. Right now we're looking live at the Rochester Airport where DFL candidate Mark Dayton will be arriving shortly for a rally.

11-3 It may be as late as Thanksgiving before we find out who the next governor of Minnesota will be. Just under nine thousand votes separate Mark Dayton and Tom Emmer right now... and we could be headed for *another* recount.

11-3 Voters did not approve two proposals on the ballot concerning the Rochester Public School District. R-P-S will have to slash five million dollars from the books this school year.

11-3 Two incumbents lost their elected positions within Freeborn County after last night's election. Those races included House District 27A and the Sheriff's Office. As for the people of Albert Lea, they also have a new mayor.

11-12 We first told you about Mabel's situation last week after the election. A write-in candidate will be the city's new mayor in January. Tonight we're taking a closer look at one of the major issues that leaves Mabel split.

11-29 At 9 o'clock this morning in *every single* county across the state... officials began looking over ballots for a recount of the governor's race. Chris Conte joins us live now.... and Chris how long is this going to take?

12-4 Attorneys for Republican Tom Emmer are withdrawing hundreds of frivolous ballots challenges in Hennepin County after a recount of the governor's race failed to dent Democrat Mark Dayton's lead. Emmer and Dayton attorneys huddled together in Minneapolis Saturday to review more than 2,600 ballots challenged by Emmer partisans during the recount.

12-8 Tom Emmer is stepping back from his pursuit of the Minnesota Governor's office. He conceded to Mark Dayton around 10:30 this morning. Tonight we have team coverage of this event.

12-9 Even though Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty has a few more weeks left in office... today marked a ceremonial "passing of the torch." Governor-elect Mark Dayton says he's not naming names right now... but he is set to announce his chief of staff soon.

12-14 Governor Tim Pawlenty was in Rochester today to reflect on the good things that have happened here under his watch. Members of the Chamber of Commerce wanted to remind him

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of the impact of his support for the city. The Bio-business Center, the partnership between the U of M and Mayo Clinic, and of course, the creation of the University of Minnesota Rochester are some of his biggest achievements in Southeast Minnesota.

12-21 The United States Census Bureau has released the first bit of information from the 2010 Census. We now know that Minnesota is safe from losing any Congressional seats... but one of our neighboring states is not. Fanna Haile-Selassie has the story.

12-26 In just about one week, Minnesota will have a new governor in charge. At this point, Governor-elect Mark Dayton's administration is under construction. Key commissioner slots to be filled include the departments that oversee the budget, tax collections, unemployment benefits and education.

3. Health Care Developments

10-4 October is breast cancer awareness month. Tonight we examine an ongoing debate when should women get a mammogram? Last year a U-S government panel suggested to start screening at 50. However, Mayo Clinic still recommends women start screening at 40. Tonight meet one woman who without early screening believes her prognosis would be much worse.

10-11 It's a new place for mom's expecting at Mayo Clinic. Mayo Clinic opened its doors for tours of its new family birth center. It's on the third floor at Methodist Hospital. It's designed to provide a comfortable space with private labor and delivery rooms.

10-19 Research on concussions and traumatic brain injuries has grown dramatically in the last ten years. Today instead of focusing on the consequences of sports related concussions doctors are examining events that lead up to them. Tonight we explain how change in the way the games are played could help.

10-29 Illnesses in seven more people have been tied to the consumption of raw milk from a farm in central Minnesota. The State Department of Health says three people were infected with a bacterium and four more with a parasite.

11-16 Mayo Clinic is planning to invest nearly 370-million dollars into two state-of-the-art cancer facilities. One in Arizona and one in Rochester. Mayo is creating the largest cancer treatment center dedicated to Proton Pencil Beam Scanning. It's technology that can target a tumor more accurately, therefore reducing the harm to surrounding tissues.

11-23 What can be most difficult after completing physical therapy is when you don't have an outlet to continue it. There's a new effort between Mayo Clinic and the Y, however, that's changing that.

12-1 Ever since 1998... December first has been World Aids Day. And this is the 2nd year the Rochester Community and Technical College has done free H-I-V testing on campus. Public health officials say it's important to know your status. Today, a nurse practitioner was able to do

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20 quick, preliminary tests through a finger prick. Students were able to get their results back within 15 minutes... and there were counselors available if needed.

12-2 Thousands lose their lives every day as the war on drugs continues. Some soldiers who have been severely injured are finding new hope through a program called United for Colombia. That treatment is bringing soldiers right here, to Rochester. Aubrey Helms has the story.

12-30 A four-year-old boy from Wisconsin is recovering in the hospital from a rare procedure that could save his life. We first introduced you to Charlie Knuth a few weeks ago when he came to Minnesota to try to cure his rare skin disorder. Chris Conte shows us how Charlie's doing.

4. Education

10-5 Tonight, the Rochester School Board officially accepted Cris Fischer's resignation. Fischer left the board in early September...and now some board members up for re-election could actually fill that spot even if they lose in the polls in November.

11-9 The University of Minnesota named it's new mascot ..not that long ago.....Now ti's getting national recognition. Chancellor Stephen Lehmkuhle gave the State of the Campus address to city leaders, faculty, and staff.

11-12 Tonight was the Rochester Public Schools "Kickoff to Kindergarten" for parents and their children. It was a chance for parents to learn more about the different neighborhood and choice elementary schools in the Rochester area. Staff from all area schools were on hand to answer question from things like transportation to -- what do parents need to do to get kids "school ready."

11-22 They may be a little young to be called special agents. But the 4th graders at Dover-Eyota could be called experts in the field of internet safety for their grade level. 4th graders at the school were excited to learn they are *first* in the nation in terms of knowledge concerning internet safety.

11-29 A local school is getting some national recognition. Lewiston - Altura Elementary was named a 2010 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. The school was given a flag and plaque at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. this fall, but this morning students and staff came together to celebrate their achievement.

12-3 For the first time in more than 20 years... aspiring K through 12 teachers in Minnesota will have to take a new licensure exam. Minnesota switched to Pearson after using the Praxis Series since 1988. Minnesota educators were among the group of people who worked with Pearson Education to design the Minnesota Teacher Licensure Examination. The new exam adds on many new requirements including student teachers videotaping a classroom lesson.

12-7 Riverland's Albert Lea Campus will soon look a little bit different. This morning trucks and a crane arrived to begin constructing a wind turbine. The turbine will produce 30 kilowatts

of electricity, enough to power a small business. William Osborn is a student in the wind energy program and says he is excited to work on the piece of equipment.

12-14 If you live in the Rochester Public School district or have a child who attends one of the schools, get ready for some changes. Heidi Wigdahl attended the last meeting of the year before the new school board takes over.

12-20 With at least twelve school districts with delays for school tomorrow... today's winter storm isn't just causing headaches for travelers, it also proved to be a challenge for local school districts. At what point do districts decide the weather is so bad, that classes need to be canceled? Katie Lange has more.

12-29 Some educators got up close with nature this afternoon at Whitewater State Park with the help of digital cameras. Some 15 people took part in a workshop aimed at getting kids out of the classroom and into nature. Katie Lange has the story.

5. Crime Prevention & Domestic Violence

10-19 Students at Winona State University are still in shock after two of their classmates were shot and injured Saturday night. Now police are hoping Facebook might help crack this case.

10-24 Tonight people are remembering Minnesotans who have died from domestic violence. The Rochester Women's Shelter put on a candlelight vigil at RCTC this evening... to honor the 28 people who died in 2009. It's part of Domestic Violence Awareness month. One woman told her story of abuse to the crowd... to demonstrate how violence can occur in families.

11-12 They're sexual offenders who are at the highest risk of re-offending. Now, the state wants to cut the program that helps rehabilitate these people. As scary as it may sound... children are the highest risk here. That's because the program called Safety Center Inc. mostly deals with mentally ill patients who are also sexual offenders...and their victims are often times young kids.

11-16 Some frightening moments for students at Pine Island High School today after what sounded like gunfire prompted a brief lock down. Superintendent Chris Bates says no shots were fired... and that it was actually fire-crackers being lit in the parking lot. The school was on an exterior lockdown from 8:40 -to- 9:40 this morning. Even though no one was in danger the school took the situation very seriously.

11-18 Attorney Generals from all 50 U.S. States are now investigating mortgage lenders like Bank of America and CitiGroup. They're trying to find out if those companies signed hundreds of *THOUSANDS* of foreclosure notices... without properly looking at *each* claim. Chris Conte has been investigating the problem... he's live now with more...Chris?

12-7 There's Outrage over the proposal of a new bar in Rochester... and neighbors say it's all because of the owner's less than perfect track record. The police department, the city council and nearly 50 neighbors signed a petition against the opening of the bar, named Braatz. They all say

it has to do with location, and owner Tawonda Burks' previous handling a different bar in town. Burks use to own Windy City Bar and Grill... where a deadly stabbing happened two years ago.

12-9 The Freeborn County Attorney says he will not press charges against an Olmsted County deputy who shot and killed a wanted man. 33-year-old David Paquin allegedly robbed the People's State Bank in Elgin September 1st... the shooting happened a couple weeks later.

12-16 A prostitution arrest last night... leads to an unusual charge... failure to obtain an escort license. It's an ordinance that's been on the books for a while... as Fanna Haile-Selassie explains.

12-16 Early this year Rochester was voted as one of the top 10 best cities to be in for the next decade by Kiplinger. Now Rochester cracks another top ten list. Today Farmers Insurance ranked Rochester sixth as the "most secure place to live" in the U.S. among mid-size cities.

12-22 More than two years since the Good Samaritan nursing home abuse case came to light... a second adult has been sentenced. Ashton Larson has been sentenced to 180 days in jail for abusing residents at that nursing home. Families of the victims listened as Larson apologized, saying her actions were "extremely harmful and dumb."

12-27 What started as an arrest for passing funny money... ends in drug related charges. Police say they arrested 55-year-old Greg Evenson on Thursday night at Cub Foods. The store called police after he allegedly used a counterfeit 20-dollar bill.

12-30 Rochester Police are telling women to not leave your purse in your vehicle. On Monday a car was broken into at the Work Out World on the 39-hundred block of highway 52 in northwest Rochester.

6. Elderly/Handicapped/Minority Groups/Racism

10-5 Low income seniors will move into a newly built 54-unit apartment this week. A ribbon cutting ceremony took place this morning to celebrate the opening of Kenosha Drive Apartments. The non-profit organization, Accessible Space Incorporated, provides affordable housing for qualifying seniors and adults with disabilities. Kenosha Drive will accommodate qualifying seniors age 62 or older.

10-16 Anna Stoeher's father baptized her the day she was born because she was not expected to live. Little did they know she would live to be 110 and still going. You never expect anything like that and she didn't either. Friends and family of Anna packed the Trinity Lutheran Church's social hall to celebrate Anna's 110th birthday in Elgin where Anna has lived since 1936.

10-22 Breanna Broitzman, one of two adults charged with physically and sexually assaulting nursing home patients in Albert Lea was sentenced today. Broitzman will serve 180 days behind bars with two years probation.

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10-26 Anyone seeking legal advice was able to get it for free today in Rochester. A pilot project called legal assistance of Olmsted County took place at Bethel Lutheran Church for anyone facing a current court order or just seeking advice.

11-18 A small village in Uganda finds its handmade arts and crafts in Winona, Minnesota. The crafts are amazing -- you can't find these anywhere else. The organization Ten Thousand Villages travels to more than 70 villages around the world... buying pieces of work from artisans and promoting fair trade.

11-25 Imagine arriving in the United States just in time for Thanksgiving and not knowing what it is. Many in our community would be in that situation if it weren't for the annual International Thanksgiving dinner. Aubrey Helms has the story.

12-8 People of Sudan across America and here in southeastern Minnesota...are gathering to register for January's referendum. After nearly two decades of warfare... This vote will decide whether the southern half of the country will separate from the north.

12-14 While some economists claim the recession is over, the claim doesn't make it any easier for families to put food on the table. Instead food shelves like Channel One are seeing an increase in need. "November is not a busy month for us but we had over 3,700 families coming in to just Olmsted counties food shelf alone requesting assistance. What we're seeing is an increase in new people coming in."

12-22 A local HyVee, along with the Salvation Army, is making sure everyone in need has a holiday meal this Christmas in Mower County. This is the fourth year the Austin HyVee has raised money to for its "Feed a Family" program. As a community, more than 15-thousand dollars was raised... enough to purchase meals for 750 families.

7. Environment

10-1 Clean-up efforts by conservation officers are underway today in the Zumbro Falls area. They're looking to pick up debris along the Zumbro River that could pose major problems in the future, such as propane tanks.

10-13 What looks cute isn't so cute once you've been bit by it - the Asian lady beetle. They're not, however, acting alone. This fall, minute pirate bugs, which look almost like fleas...are attacking us, too. And just like boxelder bugs - we all have the same swatting response.

10-20 We've had 27 days without any precipitation... and right now southeast Minnesota is under a high fire danger advisory. So, the Rochester Fire Department is asking farmers who are busy with their harvest... to take precautions.

10-26 The fate of Lake Shady was decided this afternoon. The Olmsted County Board voted to remove the dam that controlled the water flow into the lake.

11-8 It's future has been the focus of a contentious debate--what do to with Lake Shady. The lake was drained after September's massive flooding... and now Olmsted County is trying something that will bring some life back to the area. "This is a hastened effort to try to stabilize this soil, in a perfect world, this fall, and most certainly try to get a real fast, rapid green up next spring."

11-11 Three houses along the Zumbro River in Kellogg are now in danger of falling into the water after September's floods. Those homes weren't flooded, they actually sit nearly 70 feet above the river... but the intensity of the flowing water swept away the river's banks.

12-10 There's a new problem literally growing in the woods of Winona. Tonight officials are saying if nothing is done the landscape along the Mississippi could be dramatically changed. And as Chris Conte shows us, it's all because of a plant some people use as a Christmas decoration.

12-20 We've all heard those familiar words... reduce, reuse, recycle. And this holiday you can put those into special use. There's nothing more frustrating than finding out a strand of Christmas lights aren't working.

12-22 We've had record snowfall this month. So why not enjoy it! Many state parks are offering winter activities to get people outside. Heidi Wigdahl had a chance to snowshoe at Whitewater State Park near Elba, Minnesota.

12-24 Now with snow totals breaking all sorts of records... people are just trying to figure out where to put it all. Today we found people out shoveling not only their driveways but the roofs as well. However, some are looking to outside help, especially during the holidays which are already a busy time.

12-27 Now that Christmas Day has come and gone it will soon be time to start cleaning up the holiday decor. If you opted for a live tree, you may be wondering what to do with it. Once you're ready to move it out you can drop it off at the Olmsted County Compost Site.

8. Youth

10-6 Kids and parents took to the streets for International Walk to School Day. This is the first year Rochester has had city-wide involvement with both private and public schools participating. Heidi Wigdahl has the story.

10-12 High school students got a unique opportunity to discover careers in healthcare. Mayo Clinic hosted a career fair for more than 45 school districts in the area. High school students in grades 10 through 12 were able to speak with mayo employees and experience hands-on activities for more than 50 different career paths at Mayo Clinic.

10-18 It's a habit that can kill ... texting behind the wheel. Furthermore, it's also illegal. One county in Iowa has devised a strategy to remind folks, before it's too late. "I've got e-mails from some parents and aunts and uncles in the area, even Des Moines, wanting us to send them

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some, because they want to give them to their nieces and nephews and their sons and daughters, hopefully to remind them not to do it so its a great awareness factor that has just hit big time right now."

11-4 Nearly 15-hundred Rochester students got a taste of some future job opportunities today. The Rochester Chamber of Commerce put on the 2010 STEM Summit event at the U-C-R Regional Sports Center. The point was to encourage students to go into the math and science fields... since they are expected to boom in the next few years.

11-13 The rain didn't stop runners from participating in a 5 mile trail run. Gamehaven Boy Scout Council held its first cross country run this morning. 89 runners braved the weather... many of them choosing to run shirtless. Some ran in kilts... others with wigs on and many put on body paint.

11-20 Midwest Skate Shop and Indoor Skate Park is closing its doors for the last time tonight. The park has been open for four years but it isn't receiving enough funds to continue. The owner... Terry Schroeder... would take kids to skateboarding tournaments and was inspired to open the shop due to his son's interest in the sport. Many parents and kids expressed their gratitude for having the skate park.

11-22 Can you imagine living in a war-torn country... only to escape for a few months to live in the U.S.? Tonight we introduce you to a foreign exchange student from Afghanistan... who is attending school in Lyle. Katie Lange has the story.

11-27 Old Man Winter is upon us. Although Mother Nature hasn't brought much snow.. that hasn't stopped Welch Village from making it. Today the ski and snowboard resort opened its doors for the season... allowing enthusiasts to get in their first downhill run of the year.

12-2 Some area high schoolers are "stepping into the shoes of lawmakers" at Winona State University. Students in grades 8 through 12 from Winona Senior High, Middle School, and Lewiston-Altura schools are experiencing how laws are made, hands-on, in the "model legislature."

12-13 Two Austin schools are trying to promote healthy eating by using a healthy snack cart. It's a pilot program offered at Sumner Elementary and Woodson Kindergarten... thanks to funds from the statewide health improvement plan. Once a day kids are given the option of choosing a tasty treat, with nutritional benefits. Food items on the cart focus on whole grains or reduced fat.

12-19 Screaming from the sidelines, it's not for football, hockey, or even soccer...but science. it's a lot like a sporting event, which is what it's intended to be. On Saturday, 27 teams in Southeastern Minnesota participated in the first Lego League Body Forward Challenge. Combining computer programming, research and teamwork, kids looked into the world of biomedical engineering through custom-built lego robots.

12-22 Firefly Fisher and Thunder Petway of the Harlem Globetrotters visited students at Riverside Central Elementary just before students left for break. Both athletes spoke about the

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team's "C.H.E.E.R. for Character" program... and of course provided some laughs and "cheers" of their own.

9. Substance Abuse

10-28 There are still plenty of people in the small city of St. Charles that support Steve Conlin...but there are those who have now turned, the other way. "Unless I am convicted of a felony I am qualified to serve my citizens as a councilman." On Sunday night, authorities raided Conlin's home and business where they found 17 pounds of pot, along with guns, cash and 61 marijuana plants.

11-28 Within minutes a family's landscape was forever changed. "As parents we've always tried to tell our kids that they have choices in life. You think through your choices and you think of the consequences. There's somebody out there on the street who had prior convictions and was driving drunk. He chose to take Austin's choices away, he had no choice."

12-8 Olmsted County's emergency medical services are reaching out to college students at R-C-T-C... by showing them what could happen if they drink and drive. The first responders were set up in the College's Atrium. Many of the booths portrayed the dangers of drinking and driving.

12-9 A new surgeon general's report on tobacco smoke show smoking cigarettes... or inhaling secondhand smoke... causes immediate and extensive damage to a person's health. The surgeon general, Dr. Regina Benjamin, said today chemicals in tobacco smoke reach the lungs quickly every time a smoker inhales and poisons the body immediately.

12-10 A Rochester man has been arrested after selling drugs to an undercover police officer. Investigators say 41-year-old Arthur Anthony was arrested Thursday after trying to sell the officer a small amount of heroin and marijuana.

12-14 Freeborn County is the latest to jump on board to enact a Social Host Ordinance. It aims to discourage underage drinking, by making adults criminally responsible for supplying alcohol to minors... or hosting an event where illegal consumption is taking place.

12-15 It's a startling statistic for parents and teens taken at one local high school. According survey taken by St. Charles high school students ... more than half of the senior class drank last year. Now the schools superintendant is speaking out. Fanna Haile-Selassie reports.

12-17 We begin tonight with what authorities are calling one of the largest drug busts in recent history... ten people are now behind bars, in connection with trafficking massive amounts of crack-cocaine, and police say they are hoping to make more arrests. Chris Conte has the details.

LOCALLY/QNI PRODUCED PROGRAMMING

KTTC-TV is very community-oriented and interested in community problems and issues. It devotes a considerable amount of its news time to the coverage of significant problems, needs and issues facing the community. KTTC has broadcast the following programming in response to the issues and programs during this quarter.

- KTTC Newscenter "Around Town"

Saturday 7:26am, 7:56am, 8:26am, 8:56am

Sunday 7:26am

"Around Town" is a 3 ½ minute segment that has interviews with individuals in the community. These interviews provide information and discussion of events in the area, usually by non-profit organizations.

- KTTC Newscenter

Newscenter Today	Monday-Friday	5:30-7:00am
Newscenter at Noon	Monday-Friday	12:00-12:30pm
Newscenter at Five	Monday-Friday	5:00-5:30pm
Newscenter at Five	Sunday	5:00-5:30pm
Newscenter at Six	Monday-Saturday	6:00-6:30pm
Newscenter at Ten	Sunday-Friday	10:00-10:35pm
Newscenter at Ten	Saturday	10:00-10:30pm
Newscenter at Ten (R)	Monday-Thursday	3:00-3:35am
	Friday	3:30-4:05am

2010 Around Town 4th Quarter Schedule

October 6 – Cardboard Box City, Quarry Hill Nature Center

October 13 – Swingsation, Vesterheim Museum

October 20 – Rochester Music Men's Chorus, Season's Hospice Gala

October 27 – Christmas at Mayowood Mansion, Eagles Cancer Telethon

Auditions

November 3 – Century Dance Team clinic, SEMYO

November 10 – IHN Music Concert, Festival of Trees for Hiawatha Homes

November 17 – Rochester Morning Pride Lions Christmas tree sale, Olde Fashioned Christmas Mantorville

November 24 – Christmas Anonymous, Plainview Olde Fashioned

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Christmas

December 1 – KTTC toy drive for Christmas Anonymous

December 8 – Habitat for Humanity gift wrapping

December 15 – Camp Companion, Home for the Holidays

December 22 – Family Service Rochester, Meals on Wheels, Rotary

Basketball Tournament

December 29 – Pine Island/Oronoco Flood Relief, Eagles Cancer

Telethon

SYNDICATED PROGRAMMING

KTTC-TV has broadcast the following syndicated programming material in response to the problems and needs of our viewing area-

- Ag Day Monday-Friday 5:00-5:30am

Daily syndicated program of agriculturally related topics.

NETWORK (NBC) PROGRAMMING

KTTC has broadcast the following network programming which addresses many of the problems and needs of our viewing area.

- Early Today Monday – Friday 4:30-5:00am

As the first broadcast of the day on the NBC Network, “Early Today” provides a comprehensive look at the news that occurred overnight as well as previewing the day’s upcoming events

- Today Show Monday – Friday 7:00-11:00am
Saturday 7:00-9:00am
Sunday 7:00-8:00am

A news program that provides the latest in international and domestic news, weather reports and interviews with newsmakers from the world of politics, business, media, entertainment and sports.

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- Meet The Press Sunday 8:00-9:00am

NBC moderator interviews top newsmakers from the week

- NBC Nightly News Monday-Sunday 5:30-6:00pm

Provides reports and analysis of the day's most newsworthy national and international events.

- Dateline Various dates/times

Prime-time news magazine program that comprises segments on a wide range of topics, including investigative reports, human-interest stories and newsmaker profiles.

SHORT FORM PROGRAMMING

KTTC demonstrates a strong commitment to our community by broadcasting public service announcements (PSA's) for many area non-profit organizations. The PSA's are listed below which aired during the quarter. Specific dates/times are not given here, but are available on request.

The following PSA's ran during the 3rd quarter of 2010

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<u>Advertiser</u>	<u>Title</u>
Alcoholics Anonymous	I Thought
American Diabetes Association	Stop Diabetes/Look Like Me/Michaels
American Lung Association	Lung-ALA-Lamplighter
American Red Cross	Red Cross Store/You Save the Day
Avocados Mexico	Kids Learn by Example/Robinson Peete
Boys & Girls Club of Rochester	Be Invested/Be Safe/Be There/

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	Be Inspired/Believe
Catholic Communications Campaign	Dirty Socks/Help Marriage
Christmas Anonymous	KTTC Drive-By Toy Drive 2010
Eagles Cancer Telethon on KTTC	Telethon Auditions 2010
Floodfest Zumbro Valley Victims	Floodfest 2010
Foundation for a Better Life	Make Difference/True Beauty/Wings
Hiawatha Homes Foundation	Festival of Trees 2010
Iowa Dept of Public Health	Iowa K2 Rozga Family
Iowa Dept of Public Health	Disappearing/Spitter
Interfaith Hospitality House	Cardboard Box City 2010
Kiwanis/Think Hockey Festival	Hockey Festival 2010
KTTC Community Calendar	Community Calendar
KTTC/FOX 47 Time to Care Drive	Time to Care Disaster Thanks 2010
KTTC Women with Drive	Women with Drive Awards
KTTC Year in Review	2010 – A Look Back
KTTC Young Hero	KTTC Young Hero Award 2010
Lanesboro Arts Center	Swingsation 2010
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society	Team in Training
Marines	Marines/Pride of the Nation
Mayo Clinic	Blood Bank
National Headache Foundation	Play to Win
Olmsted County Victim's Services	Sexual Assault
Possibilities of Southern Minnesota	Possibilities – Help
Rochester Amateur Sports Commission	Rochester Sports Banquet
Ronald McDonald House	30 th Anniversary 2010
RT Autism Awareness	Project Lifesaver

Issues and Programs Report

Fourth Quarter 2010

SAMHSA Alcohol & Drug Addiction	Celebrate/Cost
Season's Hospice of Rochester	Live & Love Affair Gala 2010
Shoplifting/Tangerine	Shoplifting-Nothing's Worth Stealing
Shriners Hospital	Shriners/William Shatner
Rotary/US Bank Basketball Classic	High School Basketball Classic 2010
Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association	Tom Brokaw SCAA
The Salvation Army of Rochester	Red Kettle Drive 2010
TvB	Project Roadblock/Ambulance/Hospital
United Way of Olmsted County	211 Information
United Way of Olmsted County	300 Volunteers
United Way of Olmsted County	Imagination Library/Dolly
United Way of Olmsted County	Live United
U.S. Youth Soccer	Soccer All Across America
Ways to Happiness Foundation	Be Temperate/Flourish

CW

Public Issues Report 4th Quarter 2010

Public File 2010 – 4th Quarter

News at

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

9/27/2010

Eating a lot of magnesium wards off diabetes. That's the word from a new study out of The University of North Carolina. Researchers say people who ate the most Magnesium in foods and vitamins cut their risk of Diabetes in half. They say the mineral plays a major role in the way the body processes sugar.

9/28/2010

There's a lot of shock and awe this morning after word dropped about American soldiers in Afghanistan charged with murder for killing civilians for sport. CNN got a tape of one soldier admitting the Afghans didn't do anything to provoke them. He's now charged with three counts of murder. The tapes also show soldiers admitting to smoking hash. They say their staff sergeant made them do it and he even kept human bones as souvenirs.

9/29/2010

An Arizona border town is waking up with its mayor behind bars. Nogales Mayor Octavio Garcia Von-Borstel and his father are charged with being involved in a bribery scheme. the FBI says Garcia-Von Borstel was soliciting city businesses to hire him as a consultant. At least one business told agents it was paying the mayor to use his official position to obtain contracts.

9/30/2010

The times square wanna-be bomber, Faisal Shahzad will be sentenced next week. And thank goodness his botched bomb didn't work. Take a look at the feds recreation using the same type of materials. Prosecutors say Shahzad wanted to set off a second bomb if the first one would have worked back in May. They say he also wanted to kill at least 40 Americans in the attacks and would have kept killing until he was captured or killed. He's upset about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

10/1/2010

There will be a job opening at the white house later today. Chief of staff Rahm Emanuel is expected to make his official announcement that he's heading to Chicago to run for mayor. Word is.. Emanuel has wanted that spot for years. Pete Rouse, a senior adviser who has been with the pres since he ran for senate.. is expected to take over the chief of staff position for the time being. The Chicago mayoral election is next February

10/4/2010

Jurors in Connecticut are expected to start deliberations later today in that horrible home invasion case where a doctor's wife and kids were murdered. Steven Hayes could get the death penalty for his role. Prosecutors say Hayes and his accomplice forced Jennifer Hawke-Petit to withdraw money from the bank three years ago. They then sexually assaulted her and one of her daughters, took photos on their cell phone, then killed Jennifer and set the house on fire.

10/6/2010

Confidence is growing on Wall Street. Stocks rallied to a near five month high yesterday as faith in central banks bolstering the economy grows. The bank of Japan set the positive tone when it cut rates close to zero Tuesday morning. They also pledged to buy about 60 billion worth of assets as a healthy dose of economic stimulus.

10/7/2010

The probe into how ex-presidential candidate John Edwards spent campaign dollars is heating up again this morning. The feds issued a 'sizable number of subpoenas' in North Carolina. Edwards is being investigated for using campaign money to cover up an affair he had with a staffer and his baby mama, Rielle Hunter. No word yet on who was summoned.

10/8/2010

Rescuers in Chile think their drill might reach the 33 trapped miners by tomorrow! Here's the plan... The drill has less than 300 feet before reaching the miners. Once it does, engineers will decide on whether to reinforce the shaft with steel. Paramedics and rescue experts will then make their way down the shaft to evaluate the men, make a list on who should go first.. and strap them into the escape capsule for their 15-20 minute ride to the surface. That could happen within two to 10 days after breakthrough. The miners have been trapped since August 5th.

10/11/2010

The FBI and local cops will continue searching for a 10 year-old North Carolina girl this morning. Zahra Baker was last seen in her bed around 2:30 Saturday morning, but investigators say they don't think she was abducted by a stranger. Meanwhile her stepmother Elisa Baker was arrested yesterday morning on prior charges not related to this case. Investigators say they haven't ruled her out as a person of interest, though.

10/12/2010

North Carolina cops are releasing some new twists in their search for the missing 10-year-girl who was "reported missing over the weekend." They're questioning the validity of a one million dollar ransom note found on a car just outside the home... Canines gave positive alerts for human remains in cars belonging to both of Zahra Baker's parents. Cops also say her parents' timeline of events has 'inconsistencies' and she may have been missing for a month instead of days.

10/13/2010

The Supreme Court is reconsidering a law that protects vaccine manufacturers from lawsuits. The Bruesewitz family brought on the case ... their daughter was permanently damaged from a DTP shot in 1992. They received compensation in the vaccine court, which was created to pay those hurt by vaccines and keep manufacturers in business. But they want the manufacturers to be held accountable. The Supreme Court is expected to make a decision next year.

10/14/2010

The trial to determine if army major Nidal Hasan should stand court martial for allegedly gunning down 13 people at fort hood will continue today. It was an emotional day yesterday as witnesses recount that day last November. One man described how his eyes locked with Hasan just before he was shot in the head. Two people testified they didn't realize they had been shot until after the terror of the moments started to wear off. The woman who made a 9-1-1 call for help cried so hard on the stand, they had to stop the tape. Hasan is charged with 13 counts of premeditated murder.

10/15/2010

Authorities now believe David Hartley's apparent death on Falcon Lake along the Texas-Mexico border may have been caused by a case of mistaken identity in a drug war. Investigators think both the type of truck he and wife were driving, as well as the area of the lake they were jet skiing on... may have prompted the attack by the Zetas drug cartel. The couple had been working in a small Mexican border town with known drug violence... But their company moved them cross the Rio Grande for safety reasons.

10/18/2010

Breaking news... NATO officials say the world's most wanted man, Osama Bin Laden is living in a house in Pakistan this morning.. Not hiding in a cave. The senior official says 'nobody in Al Qaeda is living in a cave'. In fact, they're living high on the hog, in relative comfort, protected by some locals and some members of the Pakistani intelligence services... Even though Pakistan denies that.

10/19/2010

The Post Office is offering a 25-thousand dollar reward for the arrest of whoever gunned down two female postal workers yesterday morning in western Tennessee. Cops in Henning, which is about 50 miles northeast of Memphis, say two suspects in a maroon car tried to rob the post office just before 9. Officials won't release much more information.. Only to say the FBI and ATF are also on the case.

10/20/2010

The Consumer Product Safety Commission has issued a recall this morning on about 2 million strollers after receiving reports that 4 infants died in the strollers. They are older versions of the Graco Quattro Tour and Metro Lite strollers. They were all made before 2007. The problem with them is if babies are not strapped in properly, they can slide through and get stuck and be strangled.

10/21/2010

10 infants have now died in California due to whooping cough in what health officials say is the worst outbreak in 60 years. Health officials now want everyone who hasn't had a vaccine in the past five years to get a shot. There have been almost 6,000 cases this year. Most of the infant deaths happen in babies younger than 3 months old. They say half of them got sick from their parents or caregivers.

10/22/2010

It looks like tougher restrictions on teen drivers are paying off. New numbers from the CDC say the number of deadly accidents involving teen drivers have dropped 36 percent over the past five years. The drop is due to state restrictions on teen drivers. However, car crashes are still the leading cause of death among teens and the crash risk is highest during a teen's first year of driving alone

10/25/2010

The death toll is up this morning in Haiti from Cholera outbreak. At least 250 people have died. There are more than 3,000 cases reported. Public health officials say they are bracing for a possible larger outbreak. Worried that it'll spread into port-au-prince, where tens of thousands of people are still living in tent cities after January's 7.0 earthquake. They're stepping up sanitation efforts and setting up quarantine areas everywhere.

10/26/2010

Two new developments in North Carolina this morning in the case of the missing 10 year old girl... First... Zahra's dad has been arrested for writing bad checks. And her step mom has been yanked out of her jail cell to help in the search! Elisa Baker was also arrested for bad checks October 10th, but then jailed after admitting to writing the fake ransom note after Zahra was reported missing. Cops took baker to a search site yesterday near a home where she lived three years ago. Zahra was reported missing October 9.

10/27/2010

New developments in the case of several men in the Bronx going on a string of anti-gay crimes. Three of 11 suspects arrested are free this morning due to insufficient evidence. another man has been indicted by a grand jury. Cops say the men held three victims against their will in a vacant apartment and beat and sodomized two of them. It all started when a street gang calling themselves the Latin King Goonies learned one of their young recruiters is gay. The remaining seven are awaiting word from a grand jury.

10/28/2010

Testimony continues in Florida today in the murder trial of Byrd and Melanie Billings... After jurors heard details of "how" they were killed. Prosecutors say Leonard Gonzalez Junior masterminded the plan and led six other men into the house to steal a safe they thought contained 13 million dollars in cash. Cops say when Byrd billings denied having the money... Gonzalez shot the couple in their bedroom 9 times, execution style, with one of their 13 special needs children in the room. He could get the death penalty if convicted.

10/29/2010

A new study shows why cancer may come back after several rounds of chemotherapy. The study published in the journal "cell" gave a group of mice chemotherapy and found that the stress of the treatment can drive tumor cells into a gland that produces immune cells. This gland protects the tumor cells which are why tumors can reappear in cancer patients. Researchers say cancer therapies need to be revamped to target the gland's response to tumor cells.

11/1/2010

TSA officials plan to tighten up security measures after officials say the explosive found hidden in a package on a plane in the United Arab Emirates may have traveled on passenger planes to get there. And the National Security Adviser says there could be more mail bombs out there. Investigators believe Ibrahim Hassan Al-Asiri... designed the bombs cops found in Dubai and the United Kingdom that were on the way to synagogues in Chicago. The 28-year-old Saudi National is also believed to have designed the so-called "underwear bomb" that Farouk Abdul Mutallab tried to set off on board a Detroit flight on Christmas day.

11/2/2010

Two big developments in the North Carolina missing girl case.. Cops confirm the prosthetic leg they found does belong to 10 year old Zahra Baker. Zahra's step-mom was also in court yesterday. Elisa Baker appeared before a judge charged with felony larceny in a case that's not related to Zahra's disappearance. But in a nearby County, she was also indicted on obstruction of justice charges... After cops say she admitted to planting a fake ransom note. Zahra was reported missing October 9th.

11/3/2010

US intelligence officials are connecting the dots in the foiled mail bomb attack. They think they may have intercepted 'dry run' shipments to Chicago back in September from Al Qaeda terrorists in Yemen. A carton of household goods, religious books and computer disk were shipped from Yemen to an address in Chicago by 'someone with ties to Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula'. Intelligence officials think the terrorists were testing how long it took and any potential problems!

11/4/2010

Closing arguments kick off today in the sentencing phase for murderer Steven Hayes in Connecticut. He was convicted of killing Jennifer Hawke-Petit and her two daughters in a 2007 home invasion. Yesterday, jurors heard testimony from Hayes' prison guard who watches over him...She says Hayes was manipulative in his suicide attempts while behind bars. Prosecutors are going for the death penalty.

11/5/2010

City officials in Oakland are asking people to "stay calm" today after the sentencing of a former Bart cop is handed down. Eighty people were arrested back in July after riots broke out when Johannes Mehserle was convicted of manslaughter instead of homicide. Mehserle shot and killed an unarmed man while he laid face down on the platform back in 2009. He said he thought he was holding his taser and not his gun at the time.

11/8/2010

Four Georgia teens could be officially charged today for beating a fifth teen to death at a house party Saturday night. Witnesses say they attacked the teen just because he was walking down the street. Cops say one of these teens told his friends he was going to hit the next person he saw. 18-year-old Bobby Maurice Tillman happened to be that person and cops say the group of boys beat he up, stomped him until he died. The teens face one felony murder count each.

11/9/2010

Elizabeth Smart will be back on the stand today describing what happened that night when Brian David Mitchell snatched her from her bedroom eight years ago. Yesterday.. She told the jury.. 'I remember him saying, 'I have a knife to your neck. Don't make a sound. Get out of bed and come with me, or I will kill you and your family. She also says after Mitchell took her from her room, he performed a 'wedding ceremony' and raped her daily. She also says he treated her 'like an animal' for the nine months he held her and tied her to a tree. Smart was found walking down a street with Mitchell and his wife. His lawyers aren't denying what happened... They say he was insane.

11/10/10

The toilets are flushing and water is flowing on the stranded Carnival cruise ship that lost power Monday off the Mexican coast. The Navy flew fresh supplies, 60-thousand pounds of food, water and supplies to the boat which is 130 miles west of Ensenada. Now the Carnival Splendor is being towed to San Diego, California. It should arrive late tomorrow. An engine-room fire caused the ship to lose power. Carnival says it'll give passengers a full refund and a free replacement cruise.

11/11/2010

The Washington state man known as the barefoot bandit is waking up indicted with five counts for his crime spree. 19-year-old Colton Harris-Moore is charged with stealing small planes and possessing a gun while he was on the run as well as a boat. He got his nickname because cops say he didn't wear shoes during his two year crime spree. He was finally caught in July in the Bahamas. The barefoot bandit could get at least 40 years.

11/12/2010

North Carolina cops are waiting for lab results on the human remains they found. So far they don't want to say if the 'new evidence' is related to Zahra baker's missing case. Zahra was reported missing October 9th. Cops have found a bone that might be related to the case and Zahra's prosthetic leg. Zahra's father has been arrested in an unrelated case. Her stepmother was arrested after admitting she wrote a fake ransom note for Zahra.

11/15/2010

The Fort Hood trial is set to resume today after it was adjourned to allow peeps at the fort to mark the one year anniversary of the November 5th shootings. And there's new controversy this morning. Major Nidal Hasan's lawyer says he will not present any evidence. The lawyer says he still waiting for more info from the government about what the army knew about Hasan before the shootings. He says without that evidence he can't develop a defense. 13 people died and 32 people were hurt.. Including Hasan who is now paralyzed.

11/16/2010

President Obama will award today the nation's first living Medal of Honor recipient since 1976. Staff sergeant Salvatore Giunta is being honored for putting himself in the line of fire during a Taliban attack in 2007. He saved Sergeant Josh Brennan from being held captive by the Taliban. Brennan later died from his injuries but Giunta's efforts made it possible for his family to have a proper burial. Giunta was shot twice himself but was not seriously hurt. Two men in the squadron died in the attack. Giunta says they made the biggest sacrifice anyone can ever make.

11/17/2010

No motive, no suspects, no clues as to why a big time Hollywood celebrity publicist was gunned down after she walked the red carpet for the premiere of 'Burlesque'. Cops say 64-year-old Ronni Chasen died early yesterday morning after several shots were fired into her Mercedes as she was driving to her Beverly Hills home. That caused her to crash into a light pole. Cops are searching her home and office for clues and other publicists are putting together a reward fund for info about the shooting.

11/18/2010

It's now up to the Commander at Fort Hood to decide if the military will pursue the death penalty against major Nadal Hasan. The investigating officer who acted as judge during Hasan's article 32 hearing that just wrapped up recommended death. Hasan faces 13 counts of murder and 32 counts of attempted murder in the shootings. If Hasan is convicted, there's no guarantee he'll be executed. No service member has been executed by the military nearly 50 years.

11/19/2010

Brian David Mitchell's wife will be back on the stand today in Utah. Testifying in his defense, Wanda Barzee copped a plea with prosecutors last year and is serving a 15-year sentence for her role in Elizabeth Smart's kidnapping. She told jurors their first year of marriage together was 'hellish', but that things got better once she became more submissive. Mitchell could spend life in prison if convicted.

11/22/2010

Drivers in Minnesota beware... Forecasters say freezing rain today will just make those treacherous roads even worse. One person was killed in one of 370 over the weekend.. And cops expect more today. Even paramedics and firefighters had a hard time making it through. Word is.. Ice as thick as one-tenth of an inch could coat the roads today.

11/23/2010

The man convicted of killing DC intern Chandra Levy is facing life in prison. Ingmar Guandique will be sentenced next February after a jury convicted him of first degree murder. Levy who was working as an intern for the bureau of prisons disappeared while jogging in a park back in 2001. Guandique was arrested "last year" while serving time for attacking two other women in the same park.

11/24/2010

Talk about devil in the church house... A Catholic priest is charged this morning with trying to hire someone to kill a teen who accused him of sexual abuse. The Reverend John Fiala in Dallas is also charged with two counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child. Word is, he offered an undercover agent five-grand to kill the teen, who is now 18. The teen told cops Fiala bought him gifts and began sexually abusing him once or twice a month, sometimes at the church.

11/25/2010

Thanksgiving, No live show

11/26/2010

A holiday nightmare continues for one family in central New York. Jenni-Lyn Watson disappeared from her home last Friday after coming home to spend Thanksgiving with her family. Today family and friends are working with cops to continue the search for her. The family is handing out 15-thousand flyers, hoping to get Jenni-Lyn's photo and description to Black Friday shoppers. Cops are also still trying to find the driver of a dark-colored pick-up truck seen near her home the day she was last seen.

11/29/2010

South Korea's president just addressed the nation this morning condemning last week's attacks from the north calling them an 'inhuman crime'. President Lee Myung-Bak also says actions are more important than words. His address comes a day after South Korean and US forces started a four-day joint military exercise, which has really set it off for North Korea. The North calls the drills an attempt to ignite a war at any cost.

11/30/2010

New leaks from the whistle-blowing website Wikileaks show China is losing patience with its long-time ally in North Korea. Top dogs in China describe the North regime as acting like a "spoiled child." Meanwhile, the Pentagon just released new security safeguards to make it harder for any one person to copy and reveal so many secrets... While the j-d tries to figure out how to charge the website's creator. The ONLY person charged right now is the army soldier who gave Wikileaks its first round of juice.

12/1/2010

The Wisconsin high school where a 15-year-old student held 23 of his classmates and a teacher hostage will reopen this morning. Now students will be dealing with news of the suspect's death. Cops in Marinette say they've interviewed Samuel Hengel's parents, but still don't have a motive as to why he pulled out a couple of guns at the end of the school day Monday and held the class hostage for five hours. He shot himself after cops barged into the room. Now they're looking into how he got the guns.

12/2/2010

Beverly Hills cops say they're still investigating the shooting death of a celebrity publicist, even though a 'person of interest' in the case committed suicide. Cops were questioning the unidentified man in the lobby of his apartment building last night.. When he pulled out a gun and shot himself. No word yet on how he may have been connected to Ronn Chasen who was gunned down as she drove her Mercedes Benz down Sunset Boulevard on her way home from a movie premiere.

12/3/2010

Bills to extend Bush-era tax cuts for middle class families is causing some drama in the Senate this morning. Senate majority leader Harry Reid announced last night that senate Republicans reneged on a bi-partisan plan to vote on tax cuts today. The House voted yesterday to extend tax cuts to those making under 250 grand a year. But Republicans still want the cuts to go to all Americans. Senate Dems say they still plan to vote on two of the four bills tomorrow.

12/6/2010

A popular brand of canned Chicken Salad has hit the recall list. The company that makes Bumble Bee Chicken Salad voluntarily recalled 72,000 pounds after getting complaints from people who found pieces of loose plastic inside. The products are packages in Illinois but sold nationwide.

12/7/2010

Cops in Virginia are desperately looking for this 12-year-old girl who they believe is in extreme danger. They found Brittany Mae Smith's mom dead inside her home, but no one has heard from Brittany in several days. Investigators say when Tina Smith didn't show up for work yesterday, co-workers called cops and that's when they found her body.. calling it a homicide case. They also say Tina's car is missing. Cops say they're looking for Tina's friend, Jeffrey Scott Easley who may have info about the case.

12/8/2010

My mama always told me to watch out for the clean cut boys. Check this out.. Five students at Columbia University are waking up in jail after cops busted them for selling drugs on campus. NYPD kicked off 'operation ivy league' five months ago. During that time, undercover cops bought 11-grand in da' coca, weed, 'x', Adderall and LSD.. Which was applied to Altoids mints and Sweet Tarts candy. Cops also busted three people accused of supplying the drugs.. One of whom asked an undercover cop to help him kidnap and torture rival cocaine dealers.

12/9/2010

The Elizabeth Smart kidnapping trial could wrap as early as today with jurors going into deliberations tomorrow. A psychiatrist who evaluated alleged kidnapper Brian David Mitchell wrapped up testimony yesterday. But his testimony is coming under fire because the defense paid him more than \$680,000 for it. Prosecutors call their own psychiatrist today, Mitchell is charged with kidnapping and taking Smart across state lines and getting life in prison if convicted.

12/10/2010

Three New Orleans cops are facing slammer time after being convicted of killing Henry Glover during post-hurricane Katrina chaos and covering it up. David Warren: guilty of Manslaughter. Greg McRae: convicted of using fire to commit a felony, and Travis McCabe: guilty of perjury. Prosecutors say Warren shot the unarmed Glover in the back... outside a police station. When Glover's friends rushed him to a make-shift police station for help... McRae took Glover's body... and burned it inside a car. And McCabe wrote up the false police reports to try and cover it all up.

12/13/2010

The Minnesota Vikings will "host" the New York giants tonight in Detroit. After snow brought down their house! If you haven't seen this... Take a look. A foot of snow proved too much for the Metrodome to handle... Causing the roof, the roof, the roof to collapse yesterday. No one was hurt, but the game had to be called. Tickets to tonight's game are free!

12/14/2010

Tributes are pouring in this morning... Following the sudden death of diplomat Richard Holbrooke. The White House's point man in the Afghan war died yesterday following emergency surgery Friday to repair a torn aorta. Holbrooke was best known for orchestrating the peace agreement that ended the Bosnian war, and the Washington Post reports his last words were... "you've got to stop this war in Afghanistan." President Obama called Holbrooke a true giant of US foreign policy. He was 69 years old.

12/15/2010

Ok, the Senate didn't take a final vote on tax cuts yesterday like it expected.. But leaders expect it to go down today. And the House Democrats are already licking their chops at making changes. As of now.. the package will extend Bush-era tax cuts by two years and extend unemployment benefits for 13 months. House Dems wants to change the State tax provision which exempts inheritances up to one million dollars.

12/16/2010

We're learning more about the shooting at a Florida school board meeting Tuesday night. Cops say clay duke fired a total of 14 rounds at close range. His wife says he probably didn't really want to hurt anyone. We are expecting Mr Duke's autopsy results this morning as well. A security guard eventually shot duke in the leg to knock him down. Cops say Duke then shot himself in the head.

12/17/2010

Julian Assange is back to leaking his wikis this morning after a London judge overturned the Sweeds appeal and granted him bail... again! He's going back to spilling the beans on government secrets as well as clearing his name. two women in Sweden are accusing Assange of rape, molestation and sex without a condom. Assange has to wear an electronic monitoring bracelet, report to cops in person every day and has a curfew. His next hearing is January 11th in London.

12/20/2010

When pressed for time to get home for the holidays.. It looks like the do nothing congress, knows how to get 'er done... Sort of. In rare weekend sessions.. The senate passed the bill to repeal the don't ask, don't tell policy. President Obama will sign the law this week and military brass say it'll take months, not years to fully repeal the law. But senators did not pass the dream act which would allow illegal immigrants who came to the country when they were kids apply for citizenship. The bill came up five votes short of the 60 needed. Today, congress discusses the Russian arms treaty.

12/21/2010

New York governor David Paterson may have been "blind-sided" by the state ethics board fining him 62-grand for getting five world series tickets from the Yankees last year. Paterson says 'he always intended to pay for the tickets'. But the ethics board says that's bunk. Paterson went to the game with two aides, his teen son and his son's friend. The commish says the Yankees have money connections to the state government.... That's a conflict of interest.

12/22/2010

a fourth recalls for one of Pfizer's most popular cholesterol fighting drugs today. The company is recalling 19,000 more bottles of Lipitor after getting more reports of the funk, the whole funk and nuthin' but the funk coming from the boxes they were packaged in. Pfizer says the smelly meds were shipping out before the last recall was issued.

12/23/2010

best of show

12/24/2010

best of show

12/27/2010

GOP candidate Joe Miller is dropping his opposition to Lisa Murkowski being certified as winner in Alaska's Senate race. But... He's still fighting the state over how it handle the vote count. Murkowski made history by winning the race by write-in votes after losing the primary to Miller.

Miller says the way the election board handled the ballots was shady.

Write-in ballots in Alaska have to have the ovals filled 'and' the candidate's last name written in. Some ballots had Murkowski's name spelled wrong and miller sued to have those thrown out.

12/28/2010

It looks like carbon monoxide killed five teens at a hotel room near Miami. investigators believe exhaust from a car left running in a garage beneath their rooms is the culprit...but they have to wait for autopsy results to declare an official cause of death. So far they think the deaths were accidental.

12/29/2010

The New York man carrying a dead woman's body in a piece of luggage has confessed to killing her... He says because 'she' attacked 'him'.

55-year-old Hassan Malik was in court yesterday where he admitted to bludgeoning her with a frying pan and strangling her with an electrical cord. Cops just released this video showing Malik dressed in a dark hat and leather jacket pulling a suitcase with Betty Williams' body in East Harlem. He's scheduled to be back in court tomorrow.

12/30/2010

Inspectors in Maine say high winds played a role in derailing a ski lift and sending eight people to the hospital..

Trapping 150 more. The Sugarloaf ski resort also released a timeline of events.. saying mechanic couldn't fix a problem with the lift and were trying to off-load guests when the lift's cable skipped over the edge of the pulley..

Sending five chairs 25 to 30 feet to the ground. Winds were gusting between 30 and 50 miles per hour at the time.