

2012
Problems and Needs Report
Fourth Quarter
KTTC

Issues and Programs Report
Fourth Quarter 2012

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

2012 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

2012 4th Quarter Issues and Programs Report - KTTC NewsCenter

1. Economic & Downtown Development/Jobs/Tourism

10-4 While some businesses are struggling to make a profit, one industry is experiencing a significant boom as more and more people want new homes. Within the last month, Rochester has issued 22 new home building permits, a good portion of those coming from the northeast area of town.

10-10 Officials from China joined Governor Mark Dayton and others in celebrating a big expansion at the Hormel Institute. With expansion plans underway, Hormel developed a new partnership with China's Henan Province. State and local officials welcomed the Chinese delegation which included the Governor of Henan.

10-11 The struggle to find work continues for so many Americans...especially for veterans. But today a massive turnout at the Hiring our Heroes event gave many some hope.

10-11 Speaking of jobs, times are changing for those seeking employment. Employers are scanning resumes on the internet to find future employees. When job seekers submit their resumes online, companies compile them into a database, which scans them for keywords or qualifications. Then they group them together for potential interviews.

11-1 Allegiant Airlines is celebrating its inaugural flight between Rochester and Phoenix with cheap fares. Get this--fares as low as 64-bucks each way between the two cities.

11-7 On the ballot in Rochester last night: a proposed half-cent sales tax in the city. With 65 percent of voters approving of the measure, what does this mean for the outlook of Rochester? NewsCenter's Jared Ransom joins us live in downtown Rochester with that answer.

11-8 A world leader in the manufacturing of construction and mining equipment will soon be closing its doors in Owatonna. Caterpillar told employees today its closing its Forestry Plant and moving operations and jobs to other plants in Wisconsin and Georgia. Although company officials tell us they will keep an engineering presence in Owatonna with 20 engineers - the move will still cost 100 employees their jobs.

11-13 One of the main drags in Rochester, 2nd Street SW will soon be flowing as normal. This project got underway in mid June and since then it has been a traffic nightmare. It is meant to continue the theme that was started in 2010 that gave Broadway to 6th Avenue a face lift.

11-14 Business is booming along West Circle Drive in Northwest Rochester. With Costco, Kwik Trip and Hy-Vee all set to open new retail operations in the area...and a possible zoning change. NewsCenter's Nicole Goodrich is live near the soon-to-open Costco with the latest.

11-20 With Thanksgiving just days away...millions of Americans will be hitting the roads for this holiday weekend, but if you haven't already fueled up you might be in for a surprise at the pumps.

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12-5 A small Wisconsin town along the Mississippi is raising money to repair an important and unique feature...eleven staircases that travel up the bluffs. The residents of Alma depend on tourists who come to climb...and now they're trying to repair what years of wear have done to these historic steps.

12-6 It's not good news for 95 Mason City employees - they've just learned they're losing their jobs. Minnesota-based IC Systems Incorporated is closing the branch there after for more than 20 years in operation.

12-12 One downtown Rochester hotel may be changing things with a big addition. This proposal was only offered a month ago, but it may change the look of downtown Rochester significantly and further demonstrate that the Med City is still growing.

12-17 Two area cities are facing similar issues -- how to deal with the booming frac sand industry. St. Charles and Wabasha are both facing the possibility of a frac sand facility coming to town. NewsCenter's Peter Schuneman visited both towns tonight and joins us with more.

12-18 Just one day after the Rochester City Council took on the Historic Preservation Ordinance...another city in southeastern Minnesota is deciding what to do with its historic properties. The Pine Island City Council took a closer look at what to do with a more-than 100-year-old home in the path of a future frontage road.

12-25 More than 12,000 out-of-work Minnesotans are at risk of having their unemployment insurance benefits expire Saturday. There were hopes that Congress would reauthorize the benefits, but those hopes seem to have diminished after lawmakers left Washington last week without striking a deal on the fiscal cliff.

2. Political/Governmental

10-3 Republican candidate for U.S. Senate, Kurt Bills, made a couple of campaign stops in the area today. This morning, Representative Bills was in Kasson knocking on doors with Representative Duane Quam.... after that, he spent some time here in Rochester.

10-8 Next month, voters head to the polls--and could elect a man who died back in June. The late Rochester city council president, Dennis Hanson, had filed for re-election. But here's the wrinkle. His name has stayed on the ballot because of a glitch in state law. Tonight, his family is asking for your support because a vote for Hanson would force a special session. It's something the family says is important for the democratic process.

10-15 How do you define marriage? In three weeks - if you live in Minnesota - you'll be asked that question on the November ballot. Earlier today leaders from several faiths came together in support of the marriage amendment. Catholics, Lutherans, Mormons, evangelicals and Muslims met at the Ramada Inn today. Conservative-leaning Catholics and Evangelicals are among the amendment's most staunch supporters.

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10-15 With 22 days until election day... most of you have registered to vote by now... but if you haven't, tomorrow is the last day.

10-30 Minnesotans have become sharply divided in the past few months over a bitterly-contested proposal to amend the State Constitution. The Republican-controlled State Legislature put the proposed "Marriage Amendment" on the ballot... and Governor Mark Dayton did not have the power to veto or stop it. It would legally define marriage as only between one man and one woman.

10-31 A political battle is brewing in Minnesota. Should government-issued photo ID's be required to vote at polling locations?

11-1 It's helped Rochester become what it is today... generating more than 180 million dollars for Med City landmarks, transportation and recreation projects. Tuesday, Rochester residents will vote on whether to renew the city's half cent sales tax -- money that would help complete a laundry list of future projects to help the city grow. But some are worried about the size and scope of the tax.

11-5 Here we are on the eve of election night... and two major players have been dueling it out for months for the First District seat. The battle between Tim Walz and Allen Quist has taken many turns these past months. NewsCenter's Peter Schuneman joins us with one final look at their contentious campaign.

11-5 A recent ruling in the city of Austin places extra importance on tomorrow's mayoral election. Incumbent Tom Stiehm will face candidate Dick Lang for a four year term as mayor opposed to the previous two year term. Stiehm states as mayor he works closely with the council to help decide what's best for the people. Lang said he is opposed to raising taxes, and as mayor will seek to reign in town spending.

11-7 At least one of the Democrats who have helped the party reclaim the State Capitol will be a fresh face in the House. A former Wells mayor beat out the incumbent in District 27A.

11-7 A surprise from election night hits closer to home in the race for the District 21 State Senate seat. DFL'er Matt Schmit edged out incumbent Jon Howe. Schmit could be seen taking down his campaign signs around Lake City today.

11-7 Rochester residents elected the late Denny Hanson to city council president last night. The Hanson family has been campaigning for the late city council president... calling a vote for Denny a "vote for choice"... because his win forces a special election.

11-8 Tuesday night's elections ushered in a power shift in the Minnesota Legislature with the DFL holding majorities in both the House and Senate. Tonight, they choose their legislative leadership.

11-13 Results from election night for a Wabasha County commissioners seat led to a 4-vote victory, close enough to lead to a recount. That recount took place today in Wabasha.

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11-13 The Minnesota Vikings are pushing back against Gov. Mark Dayton after he criticized the team for considering extra fees on season ticket holders to help pay the team's share of building a new football stadium. Dayton stated he didn't want the "People's Stadium" to become a "Rich People's Stadium." Tonight at the Doubletree hotel in Rochester... fans had a chance to speak their minds on any matter pertaining to the Vikes.

11-15 The 2012 election saw spending reach historic heights, and both sides of the battle with Minnesota's two amendments received significant monetary support. But which side raised the most? And did the money make an impact? NewsCenter's Jared Ransom joins us now in the newsroom with the story.

11-26 Congressmen Tim Walz stopped in Rochester today - catching up with his constituents. And for those picking up a few items at Hy-Vee it was an unexpected meet-and-greet with their representative. A crowd lined up earlier today inside Hy-Vee South to talk with the Congressman...some to talk about medical and veteran affairs, but most of today's worries surrounded the quickly approaching expiration date of our current tax cuts.

11-28 Wabasha County Commissioner Merl Norman lost a bid for re-election by four votes to rival Don Springer three weeks ago. Now, Norman and two other commissioners have voted to slash the pay of county commissioners by seven thousand dollars.

12-3 The time to listen to the public's opinion on a proposed Rochester tax levy increase has come and gone this evening, but the debate will still continue... at least for a couple more weeks. The Rochester City Council is considering \$2.1 million increase in the property tax levy for 2013.

12-4 Some of the questions surrounding a Main Street renovation project in Spring Grove were answered tonight. The plan is to replace the underground waterlines that were built in the 1930's, while coinciding with MnDOT's existing plan to resurface the road and helping the city cut 1.5-million dollars from the project.

12-5 The state's budget forecast is being received with mixed reviews as Minnesota heads into a new legislative year with a deficit. NewsCenter's Jared Ransom was at the Capitol today and joins us now in the newsroom with the latest.

12-13 Minnesota leaders are wrapping up their statewide tour to get opinions on what to do to "fix" the current tax system. NewsCenter's Jared Ransom was at tonight's town hall meeting in Red Wing and joins us live in the newsroom with the details.

12-18 You're soon going to pay for more to get rid of your garbage. Residents within the county can expect to see an increase of three dollars a month next year... or nearly a ten percent hike. It's all part of a plan for solving the county's deficit in the solid waste management budget and adjusting to a rising population.

12-24 Rochester has seen a large jump in sales of semi-automatic assault-style rifles - initially after the Newtown, Connecticut school shooting - and even more so now after President Obama's call to Congress to act now to stop gun violence. Many gun owners apparently aren't taking any

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chances that they'll still be able to buy weapons like the "Bushmaster .223" reportedly used in the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre.

12-26 The 2013 Minnesota legislative session is set to begin next month. With talks of the fiscal cliff and the state budget deficit, there is plenty for the Senate and House to deal with once the first gavel strikes. NewsCenter's Jared Ransom joins us live in the newsroom with what we could expect this session.

3. Health Care Developments

10-2 The weather we've been experiencing lately has many of us spending as much time outdoors as possible. It's not only good for the body and soul, but could also help your brain, according to a study done by psychology professor Dr. David Strayer from The University of Utah. He recently tested the creative thinking skills of people on a four day backpacking trip. The professor says he found a 50 percent jump in creativity for the people who have taken the trip.

10-4 Friends and family gathered at the loop in downtown Rochester tonight - to support a young mother and wife battling cancer. It was just over a month ago when we first brought you the story of Erin Pendegast. At 30, when she was 22 weeks along with her second child - Erin was diagnosed with brain cancer.

10-15 U of M researchers are questioning if the flu vaccine is as effective as it could be. Researchers found that during some influenza seasons, current vaccines offer protection for most of the population. But compared to most routinely recommended vaccines, protection from the flu vaccine is substantially lower.

10-24 The Soil and Water Conservation District was raising the red flag against nitrates in drinking water today. Nitrates are found in many drinking water wells in Minnesota. The district hosted a Nitrate Clinic today to provide free water samples for the public. High nitrates in drinking water can cause health problems... especially in infants.

11-12 A milestone moment today in the construction of a major addition at Mayo Clinic. Which means treating patients in the new building is just around the corner.

11-15 A group of researchers...including some from the Mayo Clinic... is announcing research that better identifies people at risk for Alzheimer's. The research out today in the New England Journal of Medicine is being called the most potent genetic risk factor discovered in the last twenty years.

11-20 There are occasions in life where you meet someone and you are impacted immediately in a positive way simply by their story. With the life one young Rochester girl has been through, it is hard not to be inspired. Savannah Mielke just turned three years old in September, and she has already been through more than most of us go through in a lifetime with seven hospital visits for something that could have easily killed her.

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11-21 Most parents can't imagine watching their child slowly lose their vision. But that's what's happening to the family of a Stewartville middle schooler with a rare eye disease. Doctors say it's progressing faster than they've ever seen in someone so young...and now the family is looking for a way to save Zach's sight.

12-10 Friends, family, and students are mourning the loss of a popular middle school teacher in New Prague... Who died last night from a heart attack while he was shoveling snow.

12-13 As Christmas approaches, many think about gift giving but few consider the gift that saves lives. One man in Rochester has just received a gift he says he can never repay... the gift of life. Messan Esse is recovering from a double transplant -- doctors at Mayo Clinic replaced both his heart and his liver. And his story is even more remarkable.

12-19 Friday's tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut has sparked a national dialogue on mental illness. Many parents are wondering how to recognize the signs of a mental illness in their own children.

12-26 Whooping cough has hit Minnesota hard this year... more than 4,300 residents were diagnosed this year. Many of the cases were among children ages 9 to 12. The number is far more than in any year since World War II. Experts say the reason for the increased number is a redesigned vaccine that was introduced in 1991 to reduce the side effects.

4. Education

10-15 A task force, trying to revamp how Minnesota funds public schools, met in Rochester to take suggestions from community members. About two dozen people showed up to the session with ideas about how to change the complicated way Minnesota schools receive money.

11-8 Each year the student body of the University of Minnesota Rochester has been growing. Much of that growth could be attributed to the unique approach to education. Today Chancellor Stephen Lehmkuhle gave a state of UMR address to more than 100 people interested in the direction the campus is heading.

11-15 Governor Mark Dayton proclaimed the second week of November, "Minnesota College Application Week." Many area colleges have been taking part in celebrating by waiving their application fees for high school seniors who apply through Friday.

11-19 A local school district receives national recognition for its science and technology programs. Kingsland Public Schools celebrated the achievement tonight. The district is the first in Minnesota to get three science and technology programs certified by Project Lead the Way. The organization helps address the need for more leaders in science, technology, engineering and math.

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11-27 A state education task force is calling on the Legislature to make fundamental changes in the way school districts get their funding. The group is urging that strong steps be taken to shrink the gap between the rich and poor school districts in the state.

There's a call to simplify per-student funding formulas. Invest in all-day kindergarten for at-risk students state-wide. And take a part of district referendum levies and roll the money into a state education formula.

11-29 Students and staff at one of Rochester's elementary schools have reason to celebrate after Riverside Central was named a "super school". An award ceremony took place to recognize major strides the school has accomplished partially because of a computer program called "Imagine Learning." It helps students who are new to our country learn English - and provides educators with real-time reports.

12-3 Tonight in Rochester child-care providers are celebrating their graduation from an intensive two-year program. The new Minnesota Child Care Credential offers training to child care providers in an effort to ensure that all Minnesota children are ready to enter school by 20-20. With more than half of Minnesota's children spending some portion of their day in child care and 14-thousand care facilities operating in the state, child care is a key component in the development of Minnesota's youth.

12-5 Members of the Rotary Club of Greater Rochester are handing out 16-hundred hardcover dictionaries to all third graders - today and tomorrow. This is the fifth year of this project and is part of an effort encourage literacy,

12-13 Tonight the First Steps organization reported back to the community on what they're finding out about pre-K education. No surprise, a strong investment in early education results in better prepared children when they get to kindergarten.

12-19 The polls in Rushford closed only two hours ago, and the voters have decided the fate of a proposed 15-million dollar renovation project in the Rushford-Peterson school district. NewsCenter's Jared Ransom was in Rushford this afternoon and joins us live in the studio with tonight's results.

5. Crime Prevention & Domestic Violence

10-4 October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and one local organization has planned many events throughout October to honor victims and support survivors of domestic violence. The Family Violence Coordinating Council held a commemoration ceremony tonight at the Rochester Community and Technical College. Their mission: to remember lives lost and educate the community.

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10-10 The investigation continues after two former teachers at Shattuck-St. Mary's in Faribault are linked to cases of sexual misconduct. NewsCenter's Jared Ransom was in Faribault today and joins us now in the newsroom with the latest

10-18 Late Tuesday night, Austin police were alerted of a domestic disturbance in the one thousandth block on Second Avenue Southwest. Police spoke to a woman found in a second floor apartment where yelling had been heard by neighbors. She told police the fight was over - and the two men had left before they arrived.

10-26 Another man in the counterfeit 20-dollar bill scheme in Rochester has pleaded guilty.

10-30 Law enforcement agencies recognize the value of new technology. Just last month the Olmsted County Sheriff's Office started implementing automatic license plate readers. It scans a number of plates in just seconds...and if there's something illegal associated with a plate - an alert will pop up on the officers' computer in their car.

11-13 Authorities are now investigating whether gangs were involved in a shooting that injured 5 people near Austin over the weekend.

11-15 A troubled Vietnam vet held Sheriff's deputies at bay with a high-powered rifle for two hours in Dodge Center today. As NewsCenter's Peter Schuneman reports, it began with shots fired and ended peacefully with the man surrendering to get help.

11-19 Rochester police have arrested four people in what appears to be a counterfeit money operation. Police say two people were sitting at a kitchen table at an apartment building in the 19-hundred block of Valleyhigh Drive on Saturday... wearing gloves and cutting paper into what looked like U-S currency.

11-27 A tough and costly lesson for an Albert Lea woman -- when someone claiming to be a police officer called her and demanded she make a full payment on a loan she had taken out through an online lender. According to the Mower County Sheriff's office, the loan came from a legitimate lender, but their computer system containing people's personal loan information was hacked. Online hackers are nothing new, but in this case, they impersonated a police officer and threatened the woman with arrest multiple times.

Chief Deputy Mark May says police officers do not call on loans.

12-6 A Stewartville man has been charged after being caught with child porn. 20-year old Nicholas Nelson is facing one count of disseminating pornography and two counts of possessing it. The Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force tracked the images to Nelson's computer. Law enforcement officers from across the country work with the task force to track sex offenders.

12-19 It's a somber day in Lake City... as the community remembers one year ago today that Officer Shawn Schneider was shot and killed while responding to a domestic dispute. It was on December 19th when Officer Schneider was trying to get a woman out of a home - away from a former boyfriend who was threatening her. Shawn died from his injuries on December 30th. Today a memorial bell ran eleven times in honor of the number of years officer Schneider served with the Lake City police force.

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12-24 Christmas Eve got off to a violent start in Winona County where a domestic disturbance turns into a manhunt and ends in gunfire. Tonight, two Olmsted County Deputies are on administrative leave. NewsCenter's Aubrey Helms has the story.

12-24 A Canton man is charged for allegedly shooting a woman in the neck. Roger Bergmann is charged with 12 felonies including assault and attempted murder. He was arrested Friday in Winona County after a conflict that started in Preston. Bergmann allegedly shot 49-year-old woman inside a home and then fled the scene.

6. Elderly/Handicapped/Minority Groups/Racism

10-11 A crash involving an 86-year-old woman near Dodge Center yesterday afternoon is raising a major question... how old is too old to drive? NewsCenter's Nicole Goodrich looked into some of the warning signs for when it might be time to get off the road.

10-24 As a significant portion of our population approaches the traditional retirement age, a larger percentage of people are choosing to work beyond that. The reasons may vary - but it's becoming the norm.

10-25 In a small home in Austin tonight... a family is saying good-night like so many others... tucking in the little one... and getting ready to go to work tomorrow. But it's been a long AND emotional journey for the Vasquez family. Originally from Mexico..., Salvador Vasquez crossed into southern California, looking for work. Then a relative persuaded him to come to Austin, for a job at Quality Pork Processors.

11-19 Overcoming life's obstacles sometimes boils down to holding-closely onto something you love. In the case of this man you are about to meet, his love is music. And it has helped get him through the unthinkable. NewsCenter's Peter Schuneman joins us with more on this man's story.

11-22 Unfortunately many Minnesotans don't even have a home...let alone a delicious thanksgiving meal... which is why homeless shelters in our area are very busy tonight. The Dorothy Day Hospitality House in Rochester is one of those temporary shelters... providing a warm meal and twenty-three beds for those in need.

12-5 Seniors at the Rochester Senior Center can now better connect with friends and family online. The center is offering Internet classes for anyone wanting to improve their knowledge of the web. Classes include lessons on how to set up e-mail and how to use Browsers, Hyperlinks, and chat rooms. Seniors have the option of learning on regular computers or magnified monitors and keyboards.

12-11 It's not Santa's sleigh or his reindeer - but it's close. Student drivers from Southeast Technical Trucking School were out delivering Christmas gifts today. This morning students and

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their instructors loaded up their trucks and headed off in separate directions, each truck loaded with toys, clothing and furniture to deliver to the Santee Sioux Reservation in Nebraska and the Crow Creek Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

The college established a relationship with these two tribes through the Winona Dakota Unity Alliance years ago and has been bringing loads of presents every December since.

12-25 Though many were able to gather with friends and family to enjoy the holiday today... some weren't able to do so but that doesn't mean they didn't have a place to go. More than 100 people gathered at the Salvation Army's Caring Partners Adult Day Program Building in Rochester. Visitors were greeted at the door, sang Christmas carols and served a warm meal by volunteers.

7. Environment

10-3 In the summertime, box elder bugs live in box elder and maple trees - they also hang out in our gardens. But the change in temperatures is their cue to find safe harbor...In urban areas, they look for nooks and crannies on buildings. As they're moving around under siding, they can sometimes end up inside our homes.

10-8 The Freeborn County Sheriff's office is restricting the use of burning permits for Freeborn County. Due to the lack of rain from the drought, the Sheriff's office is banning all burning with the exception of small camp fires.

11-5 As many locals are aware, a large population of crows has made downtown Rochester their home. Tonight, by a 5 to 1 vote, the city council approved a 35-thousand dollar plan to get rid of the birds after failing last year with a private firm. The U.S. Agriculture department will be contracted to use an intense method of harassment.

11-12 Neighbors along the Elton Hills ravine in northwest Rochester are angry over a construction project that started without warning last Friday. Crews are ripping down trees along a walking path as part of a project the city says will counter-act and help prevent erosion.

11-21 We've been chronicling the issues area waters have had with invasive Asian carp species. Just last week, a large big head carp was taken out of Lake Pepin, leaving some concerned about the current state of our waterways. NewsCenter's Jared Ransom was at Lake Pepin today and joins us now live from the newsroom with the latest.

11-27 The Shell Rock River Watershed District has been awarded a huge grant to help restore habitats and fight invasive species. Goose Lake in Albert Lea plans to install a new electric barrier thanks to the 395-thousand dollar grant. The barrier will help control the migration of carp and compliment other barriers already installed.

12-10 After a week of crow-hazing and brazen harassment... there seem to be fewer crows flocking to downtown. Where did they go? Are they coming back? Last week eight U-S-D-A wildlife biologists used a series of crow harassment techniques including lasers and pyrotechnics.

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After they finished on Friday, those who live and work downtown say they haven't really seen the crows fly back to their former roosting spots...yet.

12-11 With last night's temperatures getting down to the single digits many bodies of water are beginning to freeze over. The ice has prompted the Minnesota DNR to warn us - not to take to the ice yet.

12-13 If you notice the foundation of your house looking a little lopsided, there could be a good explanation for that. Numerous factors come in to play such as age and quality, but the most likely culprit right now, is the dry summer. A shifting sediment is a big issue. When the ground dries out, the soils condense and the weight of the house will settle even more than normal.

12-26 This might come as a surprise. The day after Christmas, business at the Olmsted County Recycling Center really picks up. If you got a new TV for Christmas, and want to get rid of the old one, that's where you'll take it. The recycling center also takes old computer monitors, and many other electronics, but you'll pay 30 cents a pound.

8. Youth

10-18 Some Winona State students are doing their part to help those less fortunate. Members of the Pi Lambda Phi fraternity have been sleeping outside on campus since Tuesday. They're collecting food and clothing as part of their Homeless for the Homeless drive.

10-22 Should cheerleading be a sport? A powerful group of pediatricians says -- "yes." They say making cheerleading a sport would help protect the safety of young female athletes.

10-26 The color orange may be more commonly associated with Halloween... but today the bright hue took on a different meaning for some local teenagers. Students at Austin High School sported the color in honor of victims of bullying and to support a worthy cause. Their anti-bullying campaign has been taking place all week.

10-26 While many kids are thinking about all the candy they'll be collecting next week, some students in Albert Lea are focusing on people in the world who don't have enough to eat. Jacob Jensen organized a "Penny War" to help collect spare change to benefit the "Feed My Starving Children" organization.

10-31 Tonight is Halloween, and many are going door-to-door in spooky costumes getting as much candy as they can. While knocking on doors is fun for some, there are families that take advantage of an alternative method of giving kids a fun Halloween adventure.

11-1 Ground was broken today on a New Boys and Girls Club in Rochester. Kids got to join in on the groundbreaking where crews have already been working to demolish the former Holmes Elementary school.

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11-14 Thousands of students were introduced to the fields of Science and Technology this afternoon. NewsCenter's Jonathan Kegges has the story.

11-26 Some high school students in Rochester are giving back this holiday season. John Marshall High School kicked off fundraising today for Christmas Anonymous. The local organization provides food, clothes and toys to families in need throughout Olmsted County.

12-17 In the aftermath of the Newtown, Connecticut tragedy - and following a series of bomb threats at Rochester Public Schools - local officials are assuring families that Rochester schools are safe. Today Superintendent Michael Munoz released two letters addressing the schools response to these events.

12-17 As the nation mourns the loss of twenty children in the mass shooting in Connecticut, local school kids are reaching out to those affected by the tragedy. When first grader Emilee Phelps from Banfield Elementary heard about the shooting at Sandy Hook, she asked her mom if she could make cards to send to families of the victims.

12-19 Police have identified three students in connection to the recent bomb threats made to Rochester Public Schools. It's an update to a story we've been following for the past week and a half. Four bomb threats were made on local schools... the suspects will face the school board and could face expulsion.

12-19 A Dover-Eyota high school student is facing criminal charges after threatening the lives of a handful of his classmates. Deputies were called to the high school around 2-30 yesterday after a staff member heard of the threats... and feared for the students' safety.

9. Substance Abuse

10-22 A Fillmore County man is back behind bars for violating his probation. Henry Herschberger of Canton was originally booked into the St. Cloud Correctional facility in September for growing and selling marijuana near an Amish schoolhouse.

10-25 Two men are behind bars tonight on charges of making methamphetamine in a city park. Austin police received an anonymous tip that the two men were skateboarding between Wildwood and Todd Parks with a backpack that contained meth-making supplies.

11-1 We begin tonight with one of the biggest drug busts in the City of Rochester this year. It all went down this morning. During a major sting...Rochester police arrest 18 people following an ongoing investigation that involved local, state, even federal agencies.

11-8 Voters in Colorado and the State of Washington sent another clear message on Election Day that is reverberating across America... that marijuana should be legalized for recreational use by adults. Here, a St. Charles man is heading a movement driving Minnesota along the same path. NewsCenter's Brie Groves is live with a special report on The Buzz of St. Charles.

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11-19 Tonight we want to tell you about an epidemic that's killing our young people. It's a deadly addiction that stems from a drug we used to hear about years ago--and a drug many hoped would never make a comeback. But heroin use...and heroin-related deaths - are on a dramatic rise in this area. The number of heroin arrests, up 109-percent!

12-3 A Rochester woman is arrested in a DUI crash that left one person in critical condition. Police say 26-year-old Latandra Watts was taken into custody around 10:30 Saturday night.

12-12 A Mason City man is headed to federal prison for dealing drugs. A judge sentenced 27-year-old Tommy Walker today to more than 6 years behind bars. Walker pleaded guilty in August to distributing a controlled substance - and for having a firearm to further a drug crime. In February, officers seized more than 100 pills from his home - a drug similar to ecstasy - as well as marijuana and a 9-millimeter Uzi.

LOCALLY/ONI 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 2 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.

2012 Around Town 4th Quarter Schedule

October 6 – "Taste for Life" for Gift of Life Transplant House; Rochester Public Schools' "Haunted Hallways" at Kahler Grand Hotel
October 13 – IHN's Cardboard Box City to combat homelessness; Fillmore Central HS Music Department "Haunted House"
October 20 – March of Dimes "Signature Chefs Auction"; NAMI fundraiser
October 27 – Fall Fling Shopping at Bethel Lutheran; Season's Hospice "Live and Love Affair Gala"

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November 3 – Booker Mini Foundation's Annual Concert; Decorah "All Decked Out"
November 10 – IHN Benefit Concert; Merry Christmas at the Mantorville Opera House
November 17 – Festival of Trees for Hiawatha Homes Foundation; Rochester Repertory Theatre's Black and White Penguin Ball
November 24 – Christmas Tree Sales; KTTC Drive-by Toy Drive for Christmas Anonymous

December 1 – Bear Creek Services Cookie Exchange; KTTC Drive-by Toy Drive for Christmas Anonymous
December 8 – Rochester Male Chorus
December 15 – Century High School dance team; RCTC Foundation "Beat the Odds" Scholarship
December 22 – Gift wrapping at Apache Mall for Habitat for Humanity
December 29 – Dyslexia movie by The Reading Center of Rochester; Rochester Art Center's January exhibitions

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

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

Issues and Programs Report
Fourth Quarter 2012

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.
- 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

Issues and Programs Report
Fourth Quarter 2012

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 4th quarter of 2012

Fourth Quarter 2012 – KTTC Television

Advertiser	Title
Ad Council	Veteran Support/College Access
Air Force Reserve	"Guiding & Protecting America"
Al-Anon/Alateen SE Minnesota	Al-Anon Family Group
Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring	Big Bros/Big Sis "Start Something"
Boys & Girls Club of Rochester	Great Futures Start Here
Bluff Valley Campground	KTTC Lights at Bluff Valley 2012
Christmas Anonymous	KTTC Drive-By Toy Drive 2012
Clearway Minnesota	QuitPlan
Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption	Adoption "I Am"
Eagles Club of Rochester	Eagles Cancer Telethon Auditions 2012
Focus on the Family	Focus on the Family/Camping
Foundation for a Better Life	Values/Opportunity/Sportsmanship
Girl Scouts	Girl Scouts "Park Girls"
Got Your Six	Support Veterans
Habitat for Humanity Domestic US	Habitat for Humanity
Hiawatha Homes Foundation	Festival of Trees 2012
Interfaith Hospitality Network	Cardboard Box City 2012

Issues and Programs Report
Fourth Quarter 2012

Iowa Dept of Public Health

Kiwanis Clubs of Rochester

KTTC Community Calendar

KTTC Missing Iowa Girls

KTTC Women with Drive

KTTC Young Hero

Laketrails Base Camp

Lanesboro Arts Center

LDS Family Services

Lions International

MADD Rochester

Make a Wish Foundation

Minnesota Cancer Alliance/SAGE Scopes Colorectal Cancer

Minnesota National Guard

MN Dept of Public Safety

MN Dept of Public Safety

NAB Education Foundation

NAB Education Foundation

NBC "More You Know"

QUBO FCC Report Location

Project Roadblock

Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation

Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce

Too Busy/Jim

Kiwanis Hockey Festival 2012

Community Calendar

MISSING – Evansdale Girls

Women with Drive Awards

KTTC Young Hero Award 2012

Lake of the Woods Teen Camp

Swingsation 2012

Adoption "Spend a Day"

Join Lions Club

Austin Melville "Don't Drink & Drive"

Make a Wish "Waiting Room"

Storm/Fire/Flood

Don't Drink & Drive/Heights/

Screwed Driver/Beer Mugged

Elf Arrested for DWI/Ho-Ho-Tini/

Toasted New Year

No Kid Hungry/Jeff Bridges

Bring Change 2 Mind/Glenn Close

More You Know - Education/

Environment/Fitness Health

QUBO – FCC

Project Roadblock/Bad Dater 2012

Take Me Fishing "Protecting Memories"

Hiring our Heroes SE MN Job Fair

Issues and Programs Report
Fourth Quarter 2012

Seasons Hospice

Shoplifting/Tangerine

StopTextsStopWrecks.org

The Arc Southeastern Minnesota

The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army

United States Marine Corps

United Way of Olmsted County

United Way of Olmsted County

US Conference of Catholic Bishops

US Dept of Veteran's Affairs

Wounded Warrior Project

YMCA

A Live & Love Affair Gala 2012

Shoplifting-Nothing's Worth Stealing

Texting and Driving "5 Seconds"

The Arc SE-MN "Adrian"

Red Kettle Drive 2012

Red Kettle/Seniors 2012

Marines "For Us All"

Give. Advocate. Volunteer.

APPLE Volunteer

"Marriage Takes Teamwork"

Veterans Crisis Line "It's Your Call"

Wounded Warrior "Living Logo"

YMCA "This is Why"



Public Issues Report 4th Quarter 2012

Public File – 4th Quarter 2012

October 1st – December 31st

News at

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

October 2012

October 1st

While president Obama continues to increase his lead against Mitt Romney, ONE REPUBLICAN SAYS the debates will change that. (Take SOT) Wednesday night's the restart of this campaign and I think you're going to start to see those numbers move right back in the other direction.

October 2nd

Now that we are in October, searches have been spiking on yahoo for halloween costumes. Here are the costumes people have searched the most over the last 30 days...

1. Ewok
2. Lion
3. Flying Monkey ("Wizard of Oz")
4. Yoshi
5. Minnie Mouse

but, if none of those strike you, maybe you could go topical. Here are some things that were hot in 20-12 that would make great costumes

PSY

Replacement Refs

Botched Fresco Jesus

Patricia Krentcil, "The Tanning Mom"

Ermahgerd Girl

OVERLY ATTACHED GIRLFRIEND

Voter identification comes to a head today in Pennsylvania. A JUDGE will RULE WHETHER TO UPHOLD A NEW STATE LAW REQUIRING EVERY VOTER TO PRESENT A PHOTO I-D AT THE POLLS. SUPPORTERS SAY it PREVENTS VOTER FRAUD, opponents say it discriminates!

"Disabled citizens like myself, seniors, other disenfranchised voters with a history of voting, a good record, are forced to come in person to prove who we are to exercise our constitutional rights. I think it's shameful." The bigger story is, IT would seemingly HELP ROMNEY IN THE ELECTION... Because people who can't afford I-DS GENERALLY VOTE DEMOCRAT.

October 3rd

NEW CAR SALES ARE IN THE FAST LANE... POSTING THEIR BEST MONTH IN 4 YEARS... WITH TOYOTA LEADING THE WAY. BUYERS ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF LOW INTEREST RATES AND CHEAP FINANCING. TOYOTA'S SALES ROSE 42-PERCENT IN SEPTEMBER. HONDA REPORTED A JUMP OF 31-PERCENT. AND CHRYSLER'S SALES INCREASE 12-PERCENT. INDUSTRY-WIDE... SALES WERE UP NEARLY 13-PERCENT IN SEPTEMBER COMPARED

October 4th

THE REPUBLICANS ARE CELEBRATING THIS MORNING AFTER WHAT MANY OF THEM SEE AS A DEBATE VICTORY FOR THEIR CANDIDATE. A C-N-N POLL RELEASED OVERNIGHT... SAYS 67-PERCENT OF VOTERS WHO WATCHED LAST NIGHT'S POLITICAL SHOWDOWN SAID MITTENS WAS THE BIG WINNER. THAT'S COMPARED TO 25-PERCENT OF THOSE WHO SAID OBAMA CAME OUT ON TOP.

AN OUTBREAK OF A RARE AND DEADLY FORM OF MENINGITIS IS SPREADING. 26 PEOPLE IN FIVE STATES WHO RECEIVED STEROID INJECTIONS HAVE GOTTEN SICK AND 4 PEOPLE HAVE DIED. EIGHTEEN OF THE CASES were born FROM A NASHVILLE CLINIC THAT had RECEIVED THE LARGEST SHIPMENT OF THE SUSPECTED STEROID! THE DRUG WAS MADE BY A SPECIALTY PHARMACY IN MASSACHUSETTS THAT HAS SINCE ISSUED A RECALL.

October 5th

YOU KNOW, EVERY NOW AND THEN WE SAY SOMETHING THAT MAKES US REACT LIKE THIS: WELL, THAT'S PRETTY MUCH HOW MITT ROMNEY IS NOW RESPONDING TO HIS 47-PERCENT REMARKS. LAST NIGHT, HE WENT ON FOX NEWS SAYING THAT HE OPENED MOUTH AND INSERTED FOOT.

Clearly in a campaign with hundreds, if not thousands, of speeches and question and answer sessions, now and then you're going to say something that doesn't come out right. In this case I said something that's just completely wrong.

HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE BELIEVES HIS *LIFE HAS SHOWN THAT HE CARES ABOUT THE 100-PERCENT... AND THAT IF HE BECOMES PRESIDENT IT WILL BE ABOUT HELPING THE 100-PERCENT.

October 8th

IT'S FINALLY PUMPKIN SEASON. So this year, instead of just sticking one on your porch, you should try eating it... because it's good for you in lots of ways!

PUMPKINS HELP WITH WEIGHT LOSS

EVEN PUMPKIN SEEDS OFFER HEALTH BENEFITS

OTHER HEALTH BENEFITS OF PUMPKIN

PROTECTS THE SKIN

GOOD FOR TEETH AND BONES

PREVENTS KIDNEY STONE.

October 9th

You always hear don't eat before bed, but today we are saying screw that! There are some right before bed foods that can help you fall asleep!

YEP, WARM MILK REALLY DOES HELP.

YOGURT

OTHER FOODS YOU CAN EAT TO HELP YOU GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP

Caffeine-free tea or sugar-free hot chocolate.

A handful of dry cereal or slice of whole wheat toast.

Graham crackers.

October 10th

LISTEN UP TOYOTA OWNERS...

THE POPULAR CAR MAKER IS ISSUING THEIR LARGEST RECALL FOR A SINGLE-PART EVER!

ABOUT TWO-AND-A-HALF MILLION CARS IN THE U-S ARE PART OF A RECALL SPANNING MORE THAN SEVEN-MILLION CARS.

TOYOTA SAYS THE DRIVER-SIDE POWER WINDOW UNIT CAN "STICK," OVERHEAT AND POSSIBLY CATCH FIRE.

NO ACCIDENTS HAVE BEEN REPORTED.

SEVERAL MODELS FROM OH-FIVE TO 20-10 ARE EFFECTED SO WE'VE POSTED MORE INFO ON THE D-B-Z DOT COM.

A RARE OUTBREAK OF FUNGAL MENINGITIS HAS CLAIMED FOUR MORE LIVES... BRINGING THE DEATH TOLL TO 12!

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE SICK IS NOW 121. THE POTENTIALLY TAINTED STEROID VIALS, WHICH HAVE BEEN RECALLED, WERE SHIPPED TO 76 FACILITIES IN 23 STATES.... So sadly, there may be more victims. The new england area compound is staying "mum" right now!

October 11th

DON'T WORRY. EVEN IF YOU'RE UNEMPLOYED, THERE ARE WAYS TO MAKE THE DOUGH.

APPLY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

BECOME A FREELANCE WRITER

DOG WALKER

ONLINE SURVEYS

SELL WHAT YOU DON'T NEED

THE STAKES ARE HIGH FOR TONIGHT'S VICE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE. AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THIS VIDEO... REPUBLICAN PAUL RYAN HAS BEEN BUSY PREPARING. AND VEEP JOE BIDEN HAS A HEAVY BURDEN. HE'S GOT TO TRY TO SLOW THE G-O-P'S MOMENTUM after the first "presidential debate." AND THE GAFFE KING MIGHT HAVE HIS WORK CUT OUT FOR HIM.

NEW NUMBERS SHOW 51-PERCENT OF VOTERS HAVE AN UNFAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF him... COMPARED TO RYAN'S 40-PERCENT.

THE DEBATE IS SET FOR 9 P-M EASTERN AND WILL FOCUS ON BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLICY.

October 12th

GAME 1 OF THE N-H-L SEASON IS... WELL... ON ICE.

The season was SUPPOSED TO START TONIGHT. But the LEAGUE AND PLAYERS continue to duke it out IN THE BIG APPLE OVER contracts! THE N-H-L ESTIMATES THE LEAGUE will lose 240-MILLION BIG ONES WITH THE CANCELLATION OF PRESEASON GAMES AND THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THE REGULAR SEASON

October 15th

Survivors and victims families today. A judge will decide at a preliminary hearing whether FRANCESCO SCHETTINO will be charged with causing a shipwreck, manslaughter and abandoning ship. His defense says his actions kept more people from dying. Experts are also expected to reveal the black box info today. 32 people died in the wreck.

LEAPING FOR GLORY AND SCIENCE, FELIX BAUMGARTNER IS IN THE BOOKS FOR THE HIGHEST FREE FALL EVER.

FROM 128,000 FEET UP AND A FREE FALL OF 4 MINUTES AND 20 SECONDS, FELIX BROKE THE SOUND BARRIER TRAVELING AT 834 MPH. HE'S NOW THE ONLY MAN TO EVER REACH THAT SPEED WITHOUT USING A VEHICLE...

AND HE LANDED ON HIS FEET! NASA HOPES TO IMPROVE FUTURE SPACE SUITS BASED ON THE DATA COLLECTED BY THE REDBULL SPONSORED STUNT.

October 16th

"UP LIKE A ROCKET, BUT DOWN LIKE A FEATHER"...GAS PRICES CONTINUE TO DIP THIS MORNING BUT AT A SNAIL'S PACE...

NATIONALLY, REGULAR GAS DROPPED FOUR CENTS SINCE LAST WEEK TO three-dollars and 77-cents a gallon. IT GETS WORST EAST TO WEST THOUGH.

OUR BOSTON PEEPS ARE PAYING THREE-88...while DENVER FELL BELOW THE NATION TO THREE-65. LOS ANGELES, STILL DEALING WITH BANK-BUSTING PRICES AT FOUR-DOLLARS AND 63-CENTS A GALLON!

October 17th

IF YOU'RE AN APPLE-AHOLIC... THEN YOU'RE BUZZING ABOUT THIS STORY.

APPLE SENT OUT INVITATIONS TO ITS LATEST PRODUCT RELEASE slated for NEXT WEEK. RUMORS HAVE BEEN SWIRLING FOR A WHILE THAT THEY'RE GOING TO LAUNCH AN I-PAD MINI. AND THIS... KINDA... CONFIRMS IT. THIS INVITATION WAS ALSO GOOD NEWS ON WALL STREET. THE RELEASE STOPPED APPLE STOCKS FROM THEIR RECENT SKID, closing UP 2.4-PERCENT YESTERDAY.

October 18th

WELL THE WORD IS OUT LANCE ARMSTRONG THE GREATEST CYCLIST OF ALL TIME... WAS ALSO THE GREATEST CHEATER OF ALL TIME. NOW THE PUNISHMENT PHASE STARTS AS THE ENDORSEMENT DEALS GO bye, bye, bye.

ALL OF HIS MAIN CYCLING SPONSORS HAVE CUT TIES.

ANHEUSER-BUSCH

TREK BICYCLES

RADIOSHACK

NIKE

EVEN NIKE... WHO STOOD BY KOBE BRYANT AND TIGER WOODS during THEIR salacious SCANDALS! ARMSTRONG WILL LOSE AN ESTIMATED 30 MILLION IN EARNINGS FROM ENDORSEMENTS, ALONG WITH MISSED PUBLIC-SPEAKING FEES.

October 19th

DECADE AFTER DECADE... PASTORS... PROSECUTORS... EVEN POLICE CHIEFS... COVERED UP CASES

OF CHILD MOLESTATION... ALL FOR THE SAKE OF THE BOY SCOUTS GOOD NAME. THAT'S WHAT MORE THAN 14-THOUSAND PAGES OF THE PERVERSION FILES SHOW. THE FILES... RELEASED YESTERDAY... HAVE ALL KINDS OF PERSONAL ACCOUNTS OF SEX ABUSE OVER THE YEARS. "I was molested every month of every year from the age of six all the way through to the age of eighteen." MATT SAYS THE SCOUT'S BACKGROUND CHECKS OF VOLUNTEERS IS INSUFFICIENT AND CONTINUES TO LEAVE BOYS VULNERABLE TO MEN LIKE THE ONE WHO ABUSED HIM.

Skywatchers will be treated to a meteor shower this weekend that could produce as many as 60 shooting stars an hour!

U-s-a today reports the yearly shower called Orionids will have peak visibility over the u-s from midnight saturday to just before dawn sunday. This happens every year as the earth passes through the trail of hally's comet.

October 22nd

Is it getting harder to find your mojo in the morning? Maybe it's because you haven't hit the gym since jesus was born! All jokes aside...

We have some sure fire ways TO MOTIVATE you to workout. FREDDIE CUE THE MUSIC!

Deadlines!

A tasty reward

Go for some "me time."

Building confidence

October 23rd

LANCE ARMSTRONG HAS LOST HIS TITLES, HIS SPONSORS, AND HIS CHARITY LIVESTRONG. NOW, HE COULD LOSE SOME COLD HARD CASH!

S-C-A PROMOTIONS PAID THE DOPED UP ARMSTRONG 7 POINT 5 MILLION IN BONUS MONEY FOR WINNING THE TOUR DE FRANCE... NOW THEY WANT THE MONEY BACK! AND THAT'S JUST THE BEGINNING... THE SUNDAY TIMES OF LONDON IS CONSIDERING SUING ARMSTRONG OVER A LIBEL CASE THE CYCLIST WON BACK IN 2000. TIME TO MAKE IT RAIN LANCE!

And it looks like obama finally took one across the "polls" board! IN A C-B-S NEWS POLL....THE PREZ won 53-PERCENT TO ROMNEY'S 23-PERCENT. With 24-PERCENT UNDECIDED. C-N-N NUMBERS WERE A LITTLE CLOSER, HOWEVER... WITH OBAMA GETTING 48-PERCENT to MITT's 40.

October 24th

Things are looking up at FACEBOOK as their second earnings report came in just above wall street estimates. THE SOCIAL NETWORK HAD SALES OF NEARLY 1-POINT-3 BILLION DOLLARS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER. THAT'S UP 24 PERCENT From LAST YEAR. Analysts still say facebook's slow transition to mobile is a problem, but zuckerberg says that is "overblown."

October 25th

The back and forth over libya continues....U-S INTEL now BELIEVES a group connected to AL-QAEDA IN IRAQ.... Helped attack the u-s consulate in libya. THAT WOULD MAKE it the SECOND group with terrorist ties linked to the SEPTEMBER 11TH ATTACK THAT KILLED AMBASSADOR CHRIS STEVENS AND 3 OTHER AMERICANS.

WITH ALL THE TALK OF GLASS CEILINGS AND BINDERS FULL OF WOMEN... IT SOUNDS LIKE THE GENDER GAP IN AMERICA IS PRETTY WIDE. BUT HOW DO WE STACK UP AGAINST THE REST OF THE WORLD?

20-12 GLOBAL GENDER GAP REPORT IS OUT, IT RANKS 135 COUNTRIES AND MEASURES THE SIZE OF A NATION'S GENDER GAP IN FOUR KEY AREAS... ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, EDUCATION, HEALTH AND POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT.

SO HOW DID WE DO?

THE US IS 22ND ON THE LIST JUST BEHIND THE U-K AND CANADA.

THE BEST COUNTRY FOR GIRL POWER is ICELAND

AND THE LAST PLACE A WOMAN WANTS TO BE IS YEMEN -- that gets a big phat "no duh."

October 26th

The EAST COAST is PREPPING FOR "FRANKEN-STORM!"

Hurricane sandy has already killed 21 PEOPLE in cuba, haiti and jamaica.... And now has her sights set on THE U-S! EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS from Boston to New York and even parts of Ohio.... Are lining up out-of-state workers and cancelling employee vacations to deal with the expected power outages! And reserve troops are ready to go.... if the clash of wind, rain and snow brings life to a stand-still anywhere!

"It's the perfect storm. And that's what's going to happen. We're gonna get snow, we're gonna get rain, we're gonna get bad weather. The tides are gonna be unbelievable" JESS will track sandy's timeline, coming up!

IF YOU'RE THINKING OF MOVING IN WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND HEED THIS WARNING...

THAT'S WHAT A NEW STUDY SAYS ANYWAY. IT CLAIMS

*ONE-THIRD OF WOMEN REPORTED EATING MORE AFTER MOVING IN WITH THEIR MEN

*WHILE ONE-THIRD OF MEN SAID THEY ATE LESS AND WOULD ACTUALLY LOSE WEIGHT

October 29th

Here's the very latest on the monster in the making....As hurricane sandy is "eyeing" the the jersey-atlantic city line for landfall, 50 MILLION PEOPLE across several states and up to canada.... are potentially in harm's way. STATES OF EMERGENCY HAVE BEEN DECLARED IN NEW YORK... D-C... MASSachusetts.... MARYLAND... NEW JERSEY... AND CONNECTICUT. 2 MILLION KIDDOS along the east coast are home this morning as CLASSES HAVE BEEN SCRUBBED. NEW YORK... PHILLY... WASHINGTON, D.C. AND BALTIMORE HAVE ALL cut subway service....and "global travel" is already being affected.... As more THAN 7-THOUSAND FLIGHTS are CANCELED so far.

October 30th

BAD NEWS FOR THE SILVER FOX -- ANDERSON COOPER'S VENTURE INTO DAYTIME IS COMING TO AN END AFTER JUST TWO SEASONS.

THAT'S RIGHT -- TELEPICTURES ANNOUNCED ANDERSON LIVE WILL NOT BE RENEWED AFTER THE CURRENT SEASON ENDS IN THE SUMMER OF 20-13. AND LOW RATINGS ARE BEING BLAMED FOR IT. ANDERSON HAS BEEN BUSY COVERING THE HURRICANE FOR HIS MAIN JOB ON CNN. BUT HE DID TAKE TIME TO RELEASE THE STATEMENT. QUOTE ""I am very proud of the work that our terrific staff has put into launching and sustaining our show for two seasons."

THE SHOW WILL CONTINUE TO RUN THROUGH THE SUMMER OF 2013 TO COMPLETE ITS CURRENT SEASON.

October 31st

TODAY IS ONE OF THE MOST CELEBRATED HOLIDAYS IN THE COUNTRY. AND no tricks here... halloween is the perfect treat for stimulating the economy. THERE'S SOME SERIOUS CASH BEING SPENT ON GHOULISH ITEMS. AMERICAN PARTICIPATION AND NATIONAL SPENDING

- 170 MILLION AMERICANS CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN
- A STAGGERING 8 BILLION DOLLARS SPENT
- 10 MILLION HALLOWEEN CARDS ARE BEING SENT OUT

HALLOWEEN SPENDING

- AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL SPENDING - 61 DOLLARS AND 97 CENTS
- AVERAGE SPENDING ON COSTUMES - 28 DOLLARS AND 65 CENTS
- TOTAL SPENT ON PETS - 370 MILLION DOLLARS

WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR COSTUME IDEAS?

- 21% STORE
- 19.6% ONLINE SEARCH
- 13.9% FRIENDS
- 11.4% PRINT MEDIA
- 8.9% FACEBOOK

KIDS PIE CHART

- 23.5% PRINCESS
- 13.1% BATMAN
- 11.1% SPIDER-MAN
- 10.9% WITCH
- 41% OTHERS

November 1st

Here's a ray of sunshine THIS MORNING....LA GUARDIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SAYS it WILL re-OPEN FOR LIMITED TRAVEL STARTING AT 7-AM EASTERN. But it'll TAKE some TIME to catch up to speed.... A total of 19-AND-A-HALF thousand flights have been CANCELED since sunday.

And that picture of political harmony comes as THE LATEST POLLS SHOW OBAMA gaining ground over mitt romney in most BATTLEGROUNDS! and there is none more important than Ohio! The prez is ahead in "seven different polls" from the buckeye state.... The average lead is 5-points! He's garnered a 6-point advantage in Michigan....As well as IN IOWA! And.... in V-P CANDIDATE....PAUL RYAN'S HOME STATE OF WISCONSIN....

Team obama is leading his republican rivals by 3-percent. BUT overall, the latest WASHINGTON POST A-B-C NEWS POLL... SHOWS THIS CONTEST IN A DEAD HEAT.

November 2nd

THERE'S A HUGE HURRICANE PARTY TAKING PLACE TONIGHT... ALL FOR A GOOD CAUSE! The "HURRICANE SANDY: COMING TOGETHER" benefit CONCERT WILL AIR SIMULTANEOUSLY TONIGHT ON VARIOUS NETWORKS and sirius x-m! You can expect performances from....JERSEY NATIVES LIKE BON JOVI AND BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN.... and LONG ISLAND'S BILLY JOEL! X-TINA WILL also make a special appearance. THE MONEY raised WILL go to the red cross.

November 5th

TIGER WOODS IS GOING TO FEEL LIKE OLD MAN AT THE NEXT MASTERS WHEN HE TEES OFF AGAINST A GOLFER THAT IS OLD ENOUGH TO BE HIS SON.

CHINESE TEEN GOLFER TIAN-LANG GUAN JUST WON THE ASIA PACIFIC AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP AND WITH IT... AN INVITATION TO THE MASTERS. AT ONLY 14 YEARS OLD HE WILL BECOME THE YOUNGEST PLAYER IN THE HISTORY OF THE TOURNAMENT. TIGER WON THE U-S AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP AT 15... SO IS GUAN THE NEXT GOLF SUPERSTAR?

The average price for a gallon of gas has taken it's biggest dip since 2008 over the past two weeks, in part to hurricane sandy.

people may have had to wait for hours to get gas in new york and new jersey, but because of the lack of travel due to the storm, supply is up. The average price for a gallon is now 3-54. San francisco is paying the most at 4 oh 5 a gallon and memphis gas is the cheapest at 3-11 a gallon.

November 6th

THE state ATTORNEY GENERAL IS LAUNCHING AN INVESTIGATION INTO POSSIBLE PRICE GOUGING. He SAYS HE'S RECEIVED MORE THAN 400 COMPLAINTS OF GOUGING FOR GAS, GENERATORS AND OTHER ITEMS in the wake OF SANDY. SOME even COMPLAINED OF BEING CHARGED \$10 FOR A BOX OF MATCHES AND \$7 FOR A LOAF OF BREAD! A SIMILAR INVESTIGATION WAS LAUNCHED LAST WEEK IN NEW JERSEY.

Here's some good news. a record number of young people are finishing highschool and going to college.

and it gets better. The new york times reports This year, for the first time, a third of the nation's 25- to 29-year-olds have earned at least a bachelor's degree. But, A lack of jobs is being attributed to the education bump.

November 7th

THE VOTES are in AND IT'S A SECOND term FOR THE BIG-O! "WE'RE GREATER THAN THE SUM OF OUR INDIVIDUAL AMBITIONS... WE REMAIN MORE THAN A COLLECTION OF RED STATE AND BLUE STATES. WE ARE AND FOREVER WILL BE THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA." PRESIDENT OBAMA claimed his VICTORY overnight IN CHICAGO. The prez WON ALL the BATTLEGROUNDS... EXCEPT FLORIDA WHERE THE COUNT CONTINUES. Obama also TOOK ROMNEY'S home STATE OF MICHIGAN AND paul RYAN'S HOME TURF OF WISCONSIN.

November 8th

Walmart's official black friday ad is out this morning and it looks like you will need to eat your turkey early to get a deal. They are offering a 75 dollar Walmart gift card with the purchase of an iPad 2... but shoppers have to be in the store and in line between 10 and 11 p.m. on Thanksgiving to get it. Other deals include a 32-inch Emerson h-d L-C-D T-V for 148 bucks... an 80 dollar discount and a 38 dollar Blu-ray player.

November 9th

While UNEMPLOYMENT claims dropped in the latest report.... superstorm "sandy" is causing turbulence! INITIAL CLAIMS DROPPED by 8-THOUSAND LAST WEEK.... But the numbers MAY have been DISTORTED BY SANDY, which PREVENTED workers from COLLECTING all the claims. And the numbers will probably go up in the next few weeks because of hurricane-related job losses.

November 12th

It's monday, so we are breaking down beauty by the numbers! Your first number is 2. Because if you want to master

your beauty you'll need these two beauty apps. The first app is The Color Genius for L'Oreal Paris. THE SECOND APP IS CALLED BLOOM BEAUTY TRENDS. YOUR NEXT NUMBER IS \$34.80. THAT'S HOW MUCH YOU'LL NEED TO GET YOUR HANDS ON A PAIR OF THESE STUDED ANKLE BOOTS AND YOUR FINAL NUMBER IS ONE. YOU'LL NEED JUST ONE FEATURE TO CLEAN UP YOUR SLEEK HAIR LOOK. AND THAT'S THE LIPS. PAIR BOLD LIP COLOR WITH SLEEK HAIR.

November 13th

FIRST ROMNEY AND NOW AN ANGRY EX... SESAME STREET IS a rocky road right now! KEVIN CLASH, THE veteran voice BEHIND SESAME STREET'S ELMO.... is on leave after a man came out saying he had a relationship with clash starting when he was 16! That ACCUSER IS NOW 23. CLASH DENIES it started before the man was "legal".... AND show peeps INVESTIGATED BUT FOUND THE CLAIMS TO BE FALSE. CLASH HAD THIS TO SAY. "I AM A GAY MAN. I HAVE NEVER BEEN ASHAMED OF THIS OR TRIED TO HIDE IT, BUT FELT IT WAS A PERSONAL AND PRIVATE MATTER. I HAD A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ACCUSER. IT WAS BETWEEN TWO CONSENTING ADULTS"

November 14th

IT'S BEEN A TOUGH YEAR FOR CHICK-FIL-A'S PUBLIC RELATIONS BUT THEY PROVED IT'S WHAT'S ON THE INSIDE THAT COUNTS. IN A RECENT NATIONAL SURVEY OF 7,600 CONSUMERS, INCLUDING THE FACTORS OF TASTE, SERVICE, CLEANLINESS, ATMOSPHERE AND OVERALL VALUE, CHICK-FIL-A WAS NUMBER ONE. THEY BEAT OUT...RAISING CANE'S, BOSTON MARKET, EL POLLO LOCO, ZAXBY'S, POPEYES, KFC, WINGSTOP, AND CHURCH'S CHICKEN AS THE FAVORITE OVERALL CHICKEN CHAIN.

November 15th

And the president is sticking to his guns about making "fat cats" pay a little more in taxes! OBAMA SAID YESTERDAY THAT in ORDER TO steer us off THIS LOOMING FISCAL CLIFF... HE'S GOING TO UP TAXES FOR THE TOP 2-PERCENT. Part of that MEANS shutting down BUSH-ERA TAX CUTS... WHICH APPLY TO THOSE MAKING MORE THAN 200-K A YEAR. THE BIG O SAID THAT SHOULD PUT ABOUT 1-TRILLION DOLLARS BACK into the economy!

IS THIS THE END OF THE ROAD FOR THE TWINKIE? HOSTESS BRANDS SAID IT WILL GO INTO LIQUIDATION... UNLESS ITS STRIKING BAKERS RETURN TO WORK BY THE END OF TODAY. BAKERS ARE PROTESTING THE TERMS... INCLUDING WAGE AND BENEFIT CUTS IN A NEW CONTRACT IMPOSED IN BANKRUPTCY COURT. THE END OF HOSTESS WOULD PUT 18-THOUSAND people OUT OF work.

November 16th

LOOKS LIKE WE MAY BE ABLE TO AFFORD DEFENSE CUTS AFTER ALL. SENATE REPUBLICAN TOM COBURN OF OKLAHOMA PRESENTED ON CAPITOL HILL YESTERDAY... A 74-PAGE MENU OF DEFENSE DEPARTMENT SPENDING CUTS.... POTENTIALLY SAVING TAXPAYERS 68-BILLION BUCKS OVER 10 YEARS. COBURN AND HIS STAFF CLAIM THEY FOUND SEVERAL CATEGORIES OF NON-DEFENSE SPENDING GOING ON AT THE PENTAGON AND EVEN PUT THE G-O-P UNDER FIRE FOR TURNING A "BLIND EYE" ON DEFENSE CUTS.

As of now, ABOUT ONE-THOUSAND PLAN TO WALK OFF THE JOB ON BLACK FRIDAY. CAMPAIGNING ON SOCIAL SITES COULD MEAN MORE WORKERS WILL join in. They are calling for an end to retaliation against employees who speak out for better pay, fair schedules and affordable health care.

November 19th

This morning, president obama became the first sitting u-s president to visit the country of myanmar. During his 6 hour visit, Obama met with Myanmar's President... and encouraged the country's leaders to continue with political and economic reforms. He also met with Aung San Suu Kyi at her home and lauded her courage and determination. Now, he's off to Cambodia, where he will attend the East Asia Summit.

November 20th

CONGRESSMAN RON PAUL HAS AN ANSWER FOR THE WING NUTS WHO WANT TO SECEDE FROM THE UNION... OK. More than 700,000 SIGNATURES HAVE BEEN COLLECTED SINCE THE ELECTION.... FOR STATES TO BOLT. MANY SEE THIS AS WHINY POLITICAL POSTURING BY A DISENFRANCHISED SECOND PLACE

ELECTORATE... INCLUDING TEXAS GOV. RICK PERRY,
BUT PAUL SAYS...

"IF THE POSSIBILITY OF SECESSION IS COMPLETELY OFF THE TABLE THERE IS NOTHING TO STOP THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM CONTINUING TO ENCROACH ON OUR LIBERTIES, AND NO RECOURSE
FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK AND TIRED OF IT."

For the first time ever, a government health panel is recommending mass testing for h-i-v.

The wall street journal reports in an effort to slow the spread, the panel is recommending tests for everyone between
the ages of 15 and 65. Numbers show 200 thousand people in the u-s have h-i-v and don't know it.

November 21st

New research shows, when it comes to the new healthcare laws... People have no idea what is coming.

The Washington post reports, most low-income Americans who will become eligible for subsidized insurance are
clueless about what is in the works. Experts say there is not a sense of urgency because the subsidies don't kick in
for another year.

If you are flying to the north east and planning to rent a car for thanksgiving... Good luck!

The Washington post reports there is a serious car rental shortage after hurricane sandy.

Rental cars were among the thousands of cars damaged in the storm.

Rental car companies are trying to bring in more cars from other parts of the country.

November 22nd

Travel will be up for the fourth year-in-a-row today...

But the pain at the pump is about what it was last year...

AND ANALYSTS SAY THE DOWNWARD TREND IN GAS PRICES SHOULD CONTINUE INTO CHRISTMAS!

TRIPLE-A FORECASTS SHOW THE NATIONAL AVERAGE COULD DIP AS LOW AS THREE-25 GALLON...

WITH WEST COAST STATES AVERAGING BETWEEN THREE-50 AND THREE-75 BY THE NEW YEAR.

THE HIGHEST AVERAGE THIS YEAR WAS RECORDED IN THE BEGINNING OF OCTOBER AT FOUR-67 A
GALLON.

If you or your loved ones are trying to fly in before the turkey is carved today...

Expect a busy airport! thanksgiving travel is up this year so, expect full flights and crowded airports.

For the third year in a row, Chicago O'Hare International and L-a-x will be the busiest airports this Thanksgiving
season, with Chicago O'Hare reclaiming the top spot.

San Francisco International is the third busiest airport followed by,

4. New York LaGuardia

5. Boston Logan International

6. New York J-f-k

7. Orlando International

8. Denver International

9. Ronald Reagan National Airport in Washington, D.C.

10. Ft. Lauderdale International

and the least busy airport will be Buffalo Niagara International, so it should be smooth sailing if you are flying
through there.

November 23rd

First there was Black Friday, then Cyber Monday

and TOMORROW MARKS THE THIRD ANNUAL Small Business Saturday.

the national movement to get people to shop local is important and Here's why....

the Small Business Administration says there are about 23 million small businesses in the u-s.

And those businesses are responsible for creating 66 percent of net new jobs.

They account for 54-percent of all U-S sales.

If you didn't go home for thanksgiving, but are planning to get there for christmas... You better book a flight today!

we are already past the mid point in november when prices start to go up for domestic christmas flights and after this
week, international fares will start going up as well.

-fares will be up 5% over last year.

-the average ticket will cost \$528 this season

-how to save? Travel on christmas. Fares will be lower, or change plans and travel between now and christmas
where fares are much lower.

November 26th

A POPULAR CHOLESTEROL-CUTTING DRUG IS being RECALLED THIS MORNING. RANBAXY PHARMACEUTICALS BELIEVES TINY GLASS SHARDS MIGHT'VE WORKED THEIR WAY INTO the generic version of lipitor. MORE THAN 40 OF THE 90- AND 500-COUNT BOTTLES of atorvastatin ARE PART OF THE RECALL, WHICH COULD LEAD TO A SHORTAGE OF THE DRUG. WE'VE POSTED MORE RECALL INFO ON OUR WEBSITE, THE D-B-Z DOT COM.

WE MIGHT WANT TO HAVE JESS CHECK THE WEATHER A LITTLE CLOSER...HELL MIGHT HAVE JUST FROZEN OVER. *SEVERAL REPUBLICANS... LIKE SENATOR GRAHAM... ARE NOW WILLING TO EAT THEIR WORDS. THEY'RE SAYING THEY WOULD BE OPEN TO INCREASING THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THE GOVERNMENT COLLECTS IN TAXES. SENATOR GRAHAM SAYS WHEN YOU'RE 16-TRILLION DOLLARS IN DEBT... YOU GOTTA PUT REVENUE ON THE TABLE SOMEHOW.HIS SUGGESTION?! LIMITING DEDUCTIONS FOR THINGS LIKE CHARITABLE GIVING AND MORTGAGE INTEREST.

November 27th

The price tag for the damage done by superstorm sandy is up to 71 point 3 billion... And that is just for new york and new jersey.

New York Governor, Andrew Cuomo, says the state needs 41 point 9 billion...

Including almost 33 billion to repair and restore damaged housing, parks and infrastructure and to cover lost revenue.

New jersey is reporting to have At least 29 point 4 billion in losses.

THE SUPREME COURT SAYS A FEDERAL APPEALS COURT NEEDS TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT WHETHER A KEY REQUIREMENT IN OBAMACARE VIOLATES RELIGIOUS FREEDOM. A PENDING LAWSUIT FROM LIBERTY UNIVERSITY CLAIMED... AMONG OTHER THINGS... THE LAW WOULD LEAD TO TAXPAYER DOLLARS FUNDING ABORTIONS AND CONTRACEPTION. THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION SAYS THAT'S NOT THE CASE. IN JUNE... THE JUSTICES UPHELD THE *OVERALL LAW... BUT LEFT ROOM FOR LEGAL CHALLENGES FOR CERTAIN PARTS OF OBAMACARE.

November 28th

HERE'S A SCARY THOUGHT: MORE THAN HALF OF america's YOUNG PEOPLE INFECTED WITH H-I-V... DON'T KNOW IT.

UP 26 PERCENT OF ALL NEW H-I-V CASES.

THERE'S PARTICULAR CONCERN WITH BLACK GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN... WHO MAKE UP 39-PERCENT OF NEW INFECTIONS IN THIS AGE GROUP.

THEY'RE ALSO WORRIED NOT ENOUGH YOUNG PEOPLE IN GENERAL ARE GETTING TESTED FOR THE VIRUS... DESPITE MORE RISKY BEHAVIOR.

THE PRESSURE IS ON THE PENTAGON TO LIFT A BAN BARRING WOMEN THEIR RIGHT TO FIGHT. FOUR FEMALE SERVICE MEMBERS have FILED A LAWSUIT AGAINST THE PENTAGON ARGUING THE 19-94 RULE KEEPING THEM FROM GROUND COMBAT UNITS IS UNFAIR AND BLOCKS WOMEN FROM PROMOTIONS.

November 29th

THE PENTAGON SAYS IT'S MAKING STRIDES... NOTING DEFENSE SECRETARY LEON PANETTA HAS OPENED ABOUT 14 AND A HALF-THOUSAND COMBAT POSITIONS FOR WOMEN... BUT THE LADIES' A-C-L-U LAWYER SAYS THAT'S NOT ENOUGH.

Out WITH THE DOLLA BILLS Y'ALL AND IN WITH THE COINS...

THAT'S what THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE IS SUGGESTING.

IT SAYS THE SWITCH FROM PAPER ONE-DOLLER BILLS TO COINS WILL SAVE THE U-S MORE THAN 4-BILLION BUCKS OVER 30-YEARS.

THE COINS WOULD COST 30 CENTS A PIECE TO PRODUCE WHILE THE BILLS ARE ONLY FIVE CENTS EACH.

BUT THE G-A-O SAYS THE COINS WILL LAST 30 YEARS COMPARED TO THE FIVE-YEAR LIFE SPAN OF A PAPER BILL.

Senator Dick Durbin will meet with the head of the army corps of engineers today in an effort to keep the drought stricken mississippi river flowing.

U-S-A today reports the river could get so low in the next week, it could stop barge traffic and disrupt billions in commerce. The corps is looking to blow up some rocks to increase the flow.

November 30th

ITS GETTING HOT IN HEEER! IT LOOKS LIKE GLOBAL WARMING JUST KICKED IT UP A NOTCH.)
U-S-A TODAY REPORTS THE POLAR ICE SHEETS IN GREENLAND AND ANTARCTICA ARE NOW MELTING THREE TIMES FASTER THAN THEY DID IN THE 90'S. THIS ADDED ABOUT HALF AN INCH TO RISING SEA LEVELS, NOT AS BAD AS SOME EARLIER WORST CASE SCENARIOS, BUT ITS NOT A GOOD SIGN.

THAT NOTORIOUS FISCAL CLIFF IS GETTING CLOSER... AND HOUSE SPEAKER JOHN BOEHNER SAYS HE'S NOT A HAPPY CAMPER.

Democrats have yet to get serious about real spending and cuts. And secondly, no substantive progress has been made in the talks between the White House and the House over the last two weeks. THESE GUYS BETTER GET THEIR BUTTS IN GEAR. THE DEADLINE TO COME UP WITH A PLAN OR FALL OFF THAT DREADED CLIFF... IS ONE MONTH TODAY!

December 3rd

the fern lake fire burning in colorado... is responsible for more evacuations over the weekend.

the denver post reports the fire, which has been burning since october 9th, has charred more than 35 hundred acres.

High winds have kept crews from putting out the blaze and caused evacuations when the fire got close to phone lines.

NORTHERN CALI HAS GONE THROUGH THREE STORM SYSTEMS... AND NOW THEY'RE GETTING READY FOR A FOURTH!

THE GOLDEN STATE IS COUNTING THEIR BLESSINGS, THOUGH.

THEY WERE WORRIED ALL THAT RAIN YESTERDAY ON ALREADY SATURATED GROUND WOULD CAUSE SEVERE FLOODING.

BUT THE LATEST SYSTEM MOVED THROUGH SO QUICKLY... IT DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE.

SOME AREAS YESTERDAY GOT AS MUCH AS AN INCH OF RAIN PER HOUR... TOPPLING TREES AND KNOCKING OUT ELECTRICITY TO up to a hundred THOUSAND CUSTOMERS at one point.

December 4th

Well FLU season has come early! The c-d-c says there are enough cases in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas to call an "official" start to the sick season! IT'S THE EARLIEST FLU SEASON IN A DECADE and is EXPECTED TO BE A DOOZY THIS YEAR! BUT THE SILVER LINING... THIS YEAR'S VACCINE IS A GOOD MATCH for THIS YEAR'S BUG.

FORD IS RECALLING TWO OF IT'S BEST-SELLING MODELS OVER FIRE FEARS THIS MORNING. NEW 20-13 ESCAPE CROSSOVERs AND FUSION MID-SIZE ECO-BOOST SEDANS ARE getting the recall BECAUSE THEY CAN OVERHEAT AND CATCH FIRE! FORD SAY NO ONE HAS BEEN HURT BUT THEY AREN'T SURE HOW TO FIX THE PROBLEM YET AND WILL GIVE FREE LOANERS TO CAR OWNERS. A LINK TO FORD'S RECALL WEBSITE IS POSTED ON THE D-B-Z DOT COM.

December 5th

AS EXPECTED... THE PREZ SAYS "NO WAY" TO THE G-O-P'S LATEST PROPOSAL TO AVOID THAT FISCAL CLIFF AND SAYS HE'S NOT GOING TO AGREE TO ANYTHING UNLESS...

We're going to have to see the rates on the top 2% go up. And we're not going to be able to get a deal without it.>
THE LATEST PROPOSAL FROM THE G-O-P WANTED TO COLLECT NEW TAXES FROM HIGH EARNERS BY LIMITING THEIR DEDUCTIONS AND TAX BREAKS.

AND UNLESS DEMS AND REPUBLICANS CAN COME TO AN AGREEMENT... AND SOON... TAXES ARE GOING TO GO UP FOR 90-PERCENT OF US!

AND AS IF BALANCING THE BUDGET ISN'T ALREADY A CHALLENGE... THE 3 STATES HIT HARDEST BY SUPER STORM SANDY ARE REQUESTING 80-BILLION IN EMERGENCY FUNDING.

LATER TODAY... SENATORS FROM JERSEY... NEW YORK... AND CONNECTICUT WILL MAKE THEIR CASES BEFORE THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE. NEW "JOYZEY" GOVERNOR CHRIS CHRISTIE HAS ALREADY REQUESTED 100-PERCENT REIMBURSEMENT INSTEAD OF THE USUAL 75-PERCENT.

December 6th

THE FED WANTS A POPULAR BABY RECLINER RECALLED AFTER FIVE INFANT-DEATHS. THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION IS SUING THE COMPANY "BABY MATTERS" CLAIMING NEWER "NAP NANNY" AND "NAP NANNY CHILL" SEAT MODELS MAY HURT OR RESULT IN INFANT DEATHS. THE COMPANY RECALLED FIRST-GENERATION RECLINERS IN 20-10 AFTER A FOUR MONTH OLD DIED... THE C-S-P-C SAYS FOUR OTHER INFANT DEATHS AND MORE THAN 70 COMPLAINTS HAVE BEEN FILED SINCE THEN.

president obama is planning to ask congress for for about 50 billion in storm aid to help hurricane sandy victims. the new york times reports the white house will send the proposal to capitol hill this week. but it falls way short of the \$82 billion New York, New Jersey and Connecticut asked for to clean up storm damage, and to improve infrastructure.

December 7th

Forget the secretive "small talk" phone calls, the real negotiations are back on to keep us from falling off the FISCAL CLIFF!

while budget talks resumed between JOHN BOEHNER's staff and the white house, president obama VISITED A MIDDLE CLASS FAMILY IN VIRGINIA YESTERDAY... WHO WOULD BE HARDEST HIT IF A DEAL ISN'T REACHED. AND ONCE AGAIN TALKED ABOUT HIS MAIN DEMAND THAT *HAS TO BE MET! As I've indicated.

The only way to get the kind of revenue for a balanced deficit reduction plan is to make sure that we're also modestly increasing rates for people who can afford it. THERE'S ONLY 25 DAYS LEFT TO GET A DEAL HAMMERED OUT BEFORE WE TAKE THE PLUNGE!

20-12 IS LIKELY TO GO DOWN IN THE RECORD BOOKS AS THE HOTTEST YEAR ON RECORD! WE'RE HAVING A WARM WINTER... WE HAD A RECORD WARM SPRING... A SCORCHING HOT JULY... AND A WARMER THAN AVERAGE FALL. THE AVERAGE NATIONAL TEMPERATURE THROUGH NOVEMBER WAS 57-POINT-1 DEGREES. THE PREVIOUS RECORD WAS 54-POINT-3 DEGREES BACK IN 1998.

December 10th

GOOD NEWS IF YOU'RE FAMILY SLEIGH IS HITTING THE ROAD FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS. GAS PRICES ARE DROPPING FAST. A NEW LUNDBERG SURVEY SHOWS PRICES HAVE DROPPED 46-CENTS A GALLON OVER THE PAST 2 MONTHS. SOME REASONS FOR THE DECLINE INCLUDE A DROP IN CRUDE OIL PRICES... SHRINKING SEASONAL DEMAND... AND FIXED PROBLEMS AT REFINERIES. HIGHEST PRICES IN THE COUNTRY?! LONG ISLAND AT 3-EIGHTY FIVE. WHILE THE LOWEST AVERAGE IS MEMPHIS AT 3-OH-4.

MEN AND WOMEN NOW HAVE EQUAL FOOTING IN THE NATION'S JOB RECOVERY. THERE'S STILL MORE EQUALITY WORK TO DO... BUT HEY, WE'LL TAKE IT. THE LABOR DEPARTMENT REPORTS AS OF NOVEMBER, BOTH GENDERS GAINED HALF THE JOBS THEY LOST IN THE RECESSION. AND THE GAP COULD NARROW EVEN FURTHER... BECAUSE THE JOB OUTLOOK FOR EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES... BOTH FEMALE DRIVEN OCCUPATIONS... LOOKS PROMISING.

December 11th

A NEW GOVERNMENT REPORT WILL HAVE YOU FEELIN' SAFER WHEN YOU'RE ON THE ROAD AGAIN. THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION SAYS CRASH-RELATED DEATHS ON U-S HIGHWAYS HIT A 62-YEAR LOW LAST YEAR. THERE WERE JUST OVER 32-HUNDRED HIGHWAYS DEATHS... THE LOWEST LEVEL SINCE 19-56 AND A 26-PERCENT DECLINE SINCE 2005. AND CONNECTICUT, NORTH CAROLINA, TENNESSEE, OHIO AND MICHIGAN HAD THE LOWEST OVERALL TRAFFIC DEATHS.

America is living longer, BUT sicker. According to u-s-a today, there are DISTURBING levels of obesity, diabetes, and high blood pressure, but ON THE FLIP SIDE less people are dying from heart disease and cancer. overall, vermont was the healthiest state and mississippi and louisiana are tied for least healthy state.

December 12h

THE PREZ AND HOUSE SPEAKER JOHN BOEHNER continue their FISCAL CLIFF negotiations.... OBAMA told reporters he doesn't believe REPUBLICANS WILL make the "middle class pay" for the hot mess of debt that the government has accumulated for decades! BUT BOEHNER CALLED OUT THE BIG O ON THE HOUSE FLOOR... SAYING THE PREZ IS JUST STALLING NEGOTIATIONS AND HASN'T PROPOSED ENOUGH SPENDING CUTS TO MAKE him happy....

But then again...
when is boehner ever happy?

SPEAKING OF WEDDINGS... WHEN'S THE PERFECT AGE TO TIE THE KNOT?
A NEW STUDY SHOWS COLLEGE KIDS THINK 25 IS JUST THE RIGHT TIME TO GET HITCHED. BUT PARENTS ARE ASKING THEIR KIDS TO HOLD OFF A LITTLE LONGER.
CASE AND POINT... OPRAH'S WORDS TO JUSTIN BIEBER ON MARRIAGE.
PROS TO GETTING MARRIED YOUNG
Women most fertile in their 20s
Have more energy with kids
CONS TO GETTING MARRIED YOUNG
Miss out on party time
Ignore solo-soul-growth

December 13h

SOME BAD NEWS FOR THE HOUSING MARKET THIS MORNING. FORECLOSURES HIT A NINE-MONTH HIGH IN NOVEMBER... EVEN AS THE NUMBER OF HOMES ON THE PATH TO FORECLOSURE FELL TO THE LOWEST LEVEL IN SIX YEARS. MORE THAN 59-THOUSAND HOMES WENT INTO FORECLOSURE LAST MONTH... THAT'S AN 11-PERCENT INCREASE FROM OCTOBER AND UP FIVE-PERCENT FROM LAST NOVEMBER.

THE FED SAYS IT'S DISAPPOINTED WITH OUR ECONOMIC RECOVERY... SO IT'S GOING TO BOOST STIMULUS MEASURES. SO IN ITS FINAL MEETING OF THE YEAR YESTERDAY... IT AGREED TO SPEND 45-BILLION DOLLARS A MONTH TO BUY TREASURY BONDS. THAT'S ON TOP OF THE MORTGAGE BONDS IT'S ALREADY BUYING. CHAIRMAN BEN BERNANKE SAID OFFICIAL INTEREST RATES WILL REMAIN NEAR ZERO... AS LONG AS UNEMPLOYMENT STAYS ABOVE 6-POINT 5 PERCENT. F-Y-I... IT SITS AT 7-POINT-7 PERCENT RIGHT NOW.

December 14th

New this morning... not one but "two" earthquakes just hit southern cali....Both happened with 100 miles of the coast... Near avalon. The first was a magnitude six-point-four and was followed by a six-point-one just second after. We're keeping an eye on updates throughout the morning.

the consumer product safety commission is issuing a warning to parents... anchor your t-vs. U-s-a today reports 29 people were killed in 20-11 due to falling tvs and most of them were children. Everything from old style tvs to flatscreens are to blame. The commission just wants to make parents aware of the danger.

December 17th

THE END IS NEAR AND THAT MEANS IT'S TIME FOR...THAT'S RIGHT. MANY AUTO INDUSTRY INSIDERS AGREE, THE LAST DAYS OF THE FINAL MONTH OF THE YEAR ARE DEFINITELY THE BEST TIME TO buy A NEW VEHICLE. DEALERS ARE IN A HURRY TO PAD AS MANY FINAL NUMBERS ON THE BOOKS and CLEAR ROOM FOR NEW MODELS. THE 27TH THROUGH THE 31ST are best!

IN THE LATEST ON THE FISCAL CLIFF TALKS, HOUSE SPEAKER JOHN BOEHNER WILL AGREE TO EXTEND THE DEBT LIMIT FOR ONE MORE YEAR. THE CURRENT DEBT CEILING IS AT \$16.4 TRILLION BUT THE OFFER GOES AGAINST MUCH OF WHAT THE GOP HAS BEEN FIGHTING SINCE THE 2010 REPUBLICAN TAKEOVER OF THE HOUSE. THIS ALSO COMES JUST AFTER BOEHNER AGREED TO A HIGHER TAX ON AMERICAN'S MAKING MORE THAN \$1 MILLION

December 18th

And A TOY RECALL, just in time for holiday shopping....THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION is RECALLING the line of "expandable toys".... Water Balz, Growing Skulls, "Despicable Me" and Fabulous Flowers. The marble-sized toys GROW UP TO 400 TIMES THEIR ORIGINAL SIZE when dropped IN WATER and pose a choking hazard. AN 8 YEAR OLD TEXAS GIRL REQUIRED SURGERY AFTER SWALLOWING a WATER BALZ LAST YEAR.

JUST IN TIME FOR HOLIDAY TRAVEL...GAS PRICES ARE down.

the national average is sitting at just under 3-25 a gallon. That's the lowest it's been in almost 2 years... And welcome news for over 84 million people who are planning to hit the roads when the holiday period officially gets underway on Saturday.

December 19th

what's worse than ordering a christmas present online and then having it not arrive on time?

According to a new study by customer service analysis group STELLAService

The award for fastest shipping is shared by Zappos.com, Staples.com and OfficeDepot.com

-these three sites take on average one day to deliver orders.

Now here's the worst

5. QVC.com , average shipping time: 5 days 16 hours

4. Store.Apple.com, average shipping time: 6 days

3. Target.com, average shipping time: 6 days 7 hours

2. Walmart.com, average shipping time: 6 days 16 hours

1. JCPenney.com, average shipping time: 9 days

A NEW STUDY SAYS MASS KILLINGS ACTUALLY HAPPEN ONCE EVERY TWO WEEKS IN THE UNITED STATES.

AS SURPRISING AS THAT SOUNDS... THE F-B-I DEFINES MASS KILLINGS AS ANY EVENT WHERE FOUR OR MORE PEOPLE ARE KILLED.

AND ATTACKS RANGE FROM ROBBERIES TO MASSACRES LIKE SANDY HOOK.

BETWEEN 2006 AND NOW...774 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF MASS MURDER...161 OF THOSE PEOPLE WERE YOUNG CHILDREN.

December 20th

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ISSUED IT'S FIRST WINTER STORM WARNING OF THE SEASON AS A LARGE BLIZZARD IS MOVING IT'S WAY ACROSS THE MIDWEST. ROADS WERE SHUT DOWN YESTERDAY INCLUDING A 156 MILE STRETCH OF INTERSTATE 70 BETWEEN DENVER AND KANSAS . Also, delta has announced it will let affected travelers change flights without fees.

IF GETTING A FOUR YEAR COLLEGE DEGREE IS A LITTLE TOO MUCH FOR YOUR POCKETS RIGHT NOW... WE'RE EDUCATING YOU FOR FREE ON HIGH PAYING JOBS YOU CAN GET WITH A COMMUNITY COLLEGE DEGREE. WELCOME TO DAILY BUZZ COMMUNITY COLLEGE. HERE'S YOUR FUTURE...

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLER SALARY \$108,000

REGISTERED NURSES SALARY \$65,000

MEDICAL SONOGRAPHERS SALARY \$64,000

DENTAL HYGIENISTS SALARY \$68,000

December 21th

today marks the official first day of winter and it's coming in like a lion.the major snowstorm sweeping across the country has left at least 7 people dead and as many as 400 thousand people are without power in 13 states. About 5 million people are under a blizzard warning and 17 states, from washington state to maine are under winter weather advisories. Airlines have cancelled about 1 thousand flights ahead of the christmas holiday. Also, there are a lot of major roads out there that are closed. Jess will have more on where this storm is headed in a minute.

YOU'VE GOT CRAMPS, SHIVERS, AND ACES... SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE SICK... ONLY PROBLEM IS, YOU'RE NOT. THERE COULD BE SIMPLE ANSWERS TO THESE WEIRD SYMPTOMS... FIRST, YOU'RE LIGHT-HEADED WHEN YOU STAND UP...IT COULD MEAN YOU'RE DEHYDRATED OR HAVE LOW-BLOOD PRESSURE. THE FIX... DRINK FLUIDS AND STAND UP SLOWLY. YOU SHOULD SEE A DOCTOR THE LIGHT-HEADEDNESS DOESN'T GO AWAY OR YOU FAINT.NEXT, FOOT CRAMPS AT NIGHT...COULD BE DUE TO AN ELECTROLYTE IMBALANCE. THE SOLUTION... WALK AROUND THEN MASSAGE THE ACHY MUSCLE. SEE A