

# ARKANSAS EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION NETWORK FCC QUARTERLY REPORT

## Issues / Programs

Time Period: **January – March 2018**

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This is the FCC Quarterly Report to be included in the Public Files. AETN Management has determined the following issues to be significant within the service areas of its six (6) television transmitters (the majority of the state of Arkansas) for the time period: **January 1, 2018 – March 31, 2017.**

AETN's six (6) television transmitters are:

- KAFT-13 / Fayetteville
- KEMV-6 / Mountain View
- KETG-9 / Arkadelphia
- KETS-2 / Little Rock
- KETZ-12 / El Dorado
- KTEJ-19 / Jonesboro

The following list of example programs illustrates how AETN addressed these key issues:

1. Arts & Culture
2. Education
3. Economics
4. Environment
5. Government / Politics / Law

6. Health / Health Care
7. Minority Issues

## 1. ARTS & CULTURE

### **Austin City Limits**

Airdate: Saturdays: January 6 – March 31, 2018  
Airtime: 11:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 60 minutes

This long-running concert series features artists from every musical genre in a live-music setting. Originally created to shine a spotlight on original Texas music, the show has expanded its boundaries to encompass a wide range of styles and artists.

### **Make Room for Pie**

Airdate: Thursday: March 8, 2018  
Airtime: 6:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 90 minutes

"Make Room for Pie" is the story of Arkansas, told through a diverse and eclectic batch of pie bakers, from the Delta to the Ozark Mountains. Author Kat Robinson takes viewers on a delicious tour of old time diners and off-the-beaten-path cafes, where pies are created with love and sweet perfection.

"This special provides the chance to recognize many of the underrated piemakers who create these humble yet delectable masterpieces, while sharing so much of what's great about The Natural State," Robinson said. "We have a lot of dishes that are specific to Arkansas - fried pickles, brown gravy with rice, cheese dip, biscuits with chocolate gravy.

"Pie is our common denominator. Every part of our state has whole and sliced pie, fried pies - this dessert that isn't just on our sideboard but by the cash register at our local truck stop or on the counter at the nearest lunchroom. Having that sort of saturation around the state provides a canvas for a deeper narrative about who we are and all these wonders that surround us, a common language that both promotes us from the outside and connects us within our borders as well."

Kat Robinson is seeking out the stories of some of the Natural State's best pies and most colorful piemakers. Share Your Favorite Pie Recipe.

Restaurants and bakeries highlighted in the film include:

Charlotte's Eats & Sweets, Keo.  
Big John's/Tacker's Shake Shack, Marion.  
Lindsey's Hospitality House, North Little Rock.  
Honey Pies, Little Rock.  
Miss Anna's on Towson, Fort Smith.  
Ed Walker's Drive-In, Fort Smith.  
Sweet Treats Sandwich & Pie Shop, Lamar.  
Hillbilly Hideout, Ozark.  
PattiCakes Bakery, Conway.  
Shangri-La Resort, Hot Springs.  
Mr. & Mrs. Chef, Hot Springs.  
The Skillet Restaurant, Mountain View.  
Batten's Donuts & Bakery, Paragould.  
Rhoda's Famous Hot Tamales & Pies, Lake Village.  
The Backyard B-B-Q Co., Magnolia.  
Grandma's House Café, Winslow.  
The Wooden Spoon, Gentry.

### **First Boys of Spring**

Airdate: Thursday: March 15, 2018  
Airtime: 6:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 90 minutes

For parts of five decades, the immortals of America's National Pastime trained on baseball diamonds and "boiled out the alcoholic microbes" of winter in the thermal baths of Hot Springs, Arkansas. In 1886, The Chicago White Stockings were the first to trek south to Hot Springs, when the team's owner and manager decided the boys needed a place to practice and get ready for the season ahead. Other teams soon followed, including the Boston Red Sox, Pittsburg Pirates, Brooklyn Dodgers and many others. Hot Springs was "wide open" in those days, frequented by famous and infamous characters.

And so came the greatest of the great, to play ball, for a month or so in late winter and early spring, including more than a third of all players enshrined in the National Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, New York. Babe Ruth, Rogers Hornsby, Cy Young, Honus Wagner--the best who ever played the game--all worked out here. And so did the legends of the Negro Leagues. The likes of Satchel Page and Josh Gibson also came to train in this southern resort town, staying in different hotels, but working just as hard to get ready for their seasons when baseball was segregated.

And there will be fun stories to be told, like the time when Ruth blasted a ball out of Whittington Park and into the Arkansas Alligator Farm, a belt measured at 573 feet--the first tape-measure home run in history. The Official Hot Springs Baseball Trail will be a part of the story, letting viewers know that while long gone, the old parks and hall-of-famers are honored today, long after the last cries of "Play Ball" vanished forever.

### **AETN Presents "Front Row with 3 Penny Acre"**

Airdate: Friday, January 5, 2018  
Airtime: 6:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

3 Penny Acre is a musical collaboration between four up-and-coming songwriters. Each member is accomplished in their own right, bringing to the band vast experience and successes from prior musical endeavors. 3 Penny Acre is, however, greater than the sum of its parts. Listeners are starting to notice the unique blend of songwriting and vocals that form the foundation of this bands Ozark inspired bluegrass/folk music.

3 Penny Acre won the 2008 Walnut Valley Festival (Winfield, Kansas) New Songs in two categories. Two songs, Dig A Little Deeper and Concrete and Clay, from their debut album were selected from more than 680 entries. The exposure that Walnut Valley Festival brought 3 Penny Acre was not the only successes of the bands freshman year. 3 Penny Acre also played the famed Good Folk House (Fayetteville, Arkansas), Little Rock Riverfest, Mulberry Mountain Festival, and the 61st Ozark Folk Festival.

### **AETN Presents "Front Row with Damn Bullets"**

Airdate: Friday, January 12, 2018  
Airtime: 6:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

Critically lauded roots-rock band Damn Bullets includes Joe Sundell, DJ Bennett and Graeme Higgins who play a blend of early rock and roll, ragtime blues, folk, bluegrass and country. Damn Bullets bring both classical training and folk sensibilities together with their three-part harmonies.

### **AETN Presents "Front Row with Go Fast"**

Airdate: Friday, January 19, 2018  
Airtime: 6:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

For nearly 12 years, North Little Rock band Go Fast has blended Americana-infused proto-rock, hot-rod culture, monster movies and other American rock staples. Among their influences are southern rock legends Lynyrd Skynryd and Mountain, whose song Mississippi Queen they have covered. Go Fast features Scott Diffie on lead guitar and vocals, Jimmy Powell on drums and Brent LaBeau on bass.

### **AETN Presents "On the Front Row with Still on the Hill"**

Airdate: Friday, January 5, 2018

Airtime: 6:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

Hailing from the Ozarks, Still on the Hill features a unique brand of Arkansan "folkgrass." The accomplished multi-instrumental and 2010 Governor's Arts Award-winning duo of Kelly Mullhollan and Donna Stjerna has produced seven albums since 2001. The group's repertoire is primarily their own original compositions interspersed with new arrangements of traditional songs.

Still on the Hill performs songs from their newest CD, "Ozark: A Celebration in Song." The project was born out of their travels in the Ozarks and from collecting song ideas from their audiences during their performances. Mullhollan and Stjerna write about the amazing folks and places they know and love with the belief that the unsung heroes of the Ozarks best reflect what makes the hills distinctive. They hope that by telling their stories in song, they will be nurturing an ongoing tradition.

## **2. EDUCATION**

### **Barnes and..."A Conversation with..."**

Airdate: Mondays, January 8 – March 26, 2018  
Airtime: 6:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

Barnes and a Conversation with..." in production for more than 20 years, is a cutting-edge current affairs program featuring conversations with a variety of prominent individuals from many interests and backgrounds. This AETN public affairs series is hosted by veteran journalist Steve Barnes. This quarter's guests are: Frank Abagnale, Roy Reed, Col. Karen Lloyd, Betsy Singleton Snyder, Michael Hibblen, Elizabeth & Michael Polston, Stanley Nelson and Kenneth Barnes.

### **Cooking on the Wild Side**

Airdate: Tuesdays: January 2 – March 27, 2018  
Airtime: 6:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

The weekly AETN locally produced show provides viewers with recipes and helpful tips on cooking outdoors with wild game, fish, vegetables and desserts.

### **Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood**

Airdate: Weekdays: January 1 – March 30, 2018  
Airtime: 8:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

This weekday award-winning animated children's television series targets preschool-aged children. Two 11-minute segments are linked by a common socio-emotional theme, such as disappointment and sadness or anger, or being thankful and appreciative. The theme also uses a musical motif phrase, which the show calls "strategy songs", to reinforce the theme and help children remember the life lessons.

### **Peg+Cat**

Airdate: Weekdays: January 1 – March 30, 2018  
Airtime: 11:30 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

The weekday show is targeted to children 3 to 5 years old. The goal is to *"inspire preschoolers' natural curiosity about math and help them develop new skills and strategies for solving problems creatively in their daily lives."* In keeping with the math theme, the animation is presented as if it were drawn on graph paper.

### **Ready Jet Go!**

Airdate: Weekdays: January 1 – March 30, 2018  
Airtime: 6:00 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

This animated, weekday series for 3-8 year-olds focuses on astronomy, scientific exploration, innovation and invention, and Earth as it is affected by our solar system. The show is about two neighborhood kids – one with an all-consuming drive for science fact and another with an overwhelming passion for science fiction – along with new kid on their street, Jet Propulsion, whose family happens to be aliens from Bortron 7.

The comedy series teaches kids a variety of Earth science concepts as well as an introductory explanation of innovation, astronomy, and our solar system.

### **Sesame Street**

Airdate: Weekdays: January 1 – March 30, 2018  
Airtime: 12:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

This award-winning weekday series delivers academic and social education that prepares kids for grade school. Since its premiere, the show's base curriculum has been set by academic research on

preschoolers. Encore episodes focus on music and art and how these tools can be used to develop the whole child – the cognitive, social, emotional and physical attributes.

In addition, the "*Elmo's World*" segment looks at the world through the eyes of a three-year-old, continues as a featured segment. Themes include birthdays, pets, teeth, families, games and more.

### **Wild Kratts**

Airdate: Weekdays: January 1 – March 30, 2018  
Airtime: 2:30 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

The weekday show's aim is to educate children about biology, zoology, and ecology, and teach kids small ways to make big impacts. The basic plot of an episode is usually to save the animals or an animal from a situation, be it villains, general human influence, or confusion on a baby animal's part.

## **3. ECONOMICS**

### **Agri Arkansas**

Airdate: Sundays: January 1 – March 29, 2018  
Airtime: 12:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

Produced by AETN, "Agri Arkansas" is a celebration of agriculture in Arkansas, featuring experts, innovators and challenges all present in the state's largest industry. It is designed to celebrate agriculture in Arkansas, and develop conversations on complex issues. Each episode features segments from around the state of Arkansas and discussions with experts. Former news anchor and veteran reporter Tony Brooks hosts the series.

### **America's Heartland**

Airdate: Sundays: January 7 – March 25, 2018  
Airtime: 11:30 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

This weekly magazine-style series give consumers an inside look at the people and processes involved in bringing food, fuel, and fiber to those in the United States and around the world. The series' producers and reporters have brought viewers informative and compelling stories about farm families, agricultural technology, consumer issues, animal welfare, environmental concerns, organic

farming, and crop sustainability to demonstrate the impact that American agriculture has on a global economy.

### **Market to Market**

Airdate: Sundays: January 7 – March 25, 2018  
Airtime: 11:00 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

From global trade conflicts to environmental controversies and changing technologies and emerging enterprises, this series explains the issues and illuminates the alternatives that challenge rural America. The program examines the trends that confront Main Street, from the growth of rural outlet malls, to community-based economic development efforts, the dispersion of health care, and the growing demands of environmental regulation.

## **4. ENVIRONMENT**

### **Exploring Arkansas**

Airdate: Wednesdays: January 3 – March 28, 2018  
Airtime: 6:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

This program showcases Arkansas activities and focuses on the extreme adventures available in the Natural State. Each episode includes high adventure and outdoor recreation, featuring some of the most breathtaking and spectacular sights in Arkansas. Most shows re-aired the following Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

### **Nature**

Airdate: Wednesdays: January 3 – March 28, 2018  
Airtime: 7:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 1 hour

This award-winning wildlife television program consists of documentaries about various animals and ecosystems. Consistently stunning documentaries transport viewers to far-flung locations ranging from the torrid African plains to the chilly splendors of icy Antarctica.

The show's primary focus is on animals and ecosystems around the world. This quarter featured shows on the baby elephants, foxes, animal reunions, otters, hawks, cheetah babies, Nature's

Miniature Miracles, the Story of Cats into the Americas, sagebrush, the Soul of an Elephant, the Story of Cats Asia to Africa.

## **NOVA**

Airdate: Wednesdays: January 3 – March 28, 2018  
Airtime: 8:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 60 minutes

This award-winning science series is the most-watched prime time science series on American television, reaching an average of five million viewers weekly. Now in its fourth decade of production, the series remains committed to producing in-depth science programming in the form of one-hour documentaries and long-form mini-series, from the latest breakthroughs in technology to the deepest mysteries of the natural world.

This quarter featured shows about Secrets of the Shining Knight, Ghosts of Stonehenge, Secrets of the Forbidden City, Killer Volcanoes, Killer Hurricanes, Killer Floods, Extreme Animal Weapons, Rise of the Robots, Secret Tunnel Warfare, Bird Brain, Day The Dinosaurs Died.

## **Four Seasons of Arkansas: Winter**

Airdate: Monday: January 1, 2018  
Airtime: 6:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 60 minutes

Arkansas's changing seasons offer a variety of things to do. This series features those seasons and spotlights different point of interest around the state. Program one is on winter.

## **5. GOVERNMENT / POLITICS / LAW**

### **Arkansas Week**

Airdate: Fridays: January 5 – March 30, 2018  
Airtime: 7:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

Arkansas Week, an AETN weekly production, features veteran journalist Steve Barnes and a dedicated, distinguished group of Arkansas journalists giving knowledge and insight on the issues in the news. Episodes are repeated the following Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

## **BBC World News**

Airdate: Weekdays: March – December 31, 2018  
Airtime: 10:00 pm & 11:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

This series from the British Broadcasting Corporation features current political events around the world and in the USA from an international viewpoint.

## **Arkansans Ask "Human Trafficking"**

Airdate: Thursday: January 18, 2018  
Airtime: 7:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 1 hour (call in)

Human trafficking is a growing problem across the United States. Since 2007, there have been 180 cases reported in Arkansas according to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center. Expert guests will discuss the impact statewide and nationally, as well as how to recognize the signs of human trafficking and help victims.

Panelists include: Louise Allison, founder of Partners Against Trafficking Humans (PATH); Dorothy Cox, assistant editor of Trucker News Organization; Emily Robbins, LCSW, mental health professional at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Child Study Center; Annie Smith, Associate Professor of Law, University of Arkansas School of Law; Genevie Strickland, Director of Education for the Morgan Nick Foundation; and Pulaski County Sheriff Doc Holladay. Veteran journalist Steve Barnes will host.

In addition to this episode of "Arkansans Ask," AETN has created a course on human trafficking awareness for Arkansas educators. This course is available on ArkansasIDEAS, and fulfills the requirements of Act 765 of 2017, which calls for human trafficking awareness education to be made available to school personnel each year. More information on the course is available at [ideas.aetn.org](http://ideas.aetn.org).

## **Frontline**

Airdate: Tuesdays: January 2 – February 27, 2018  
Airtime: 9:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 1 or 2 hours per episode

This critically acclaimed, award-winning public affairs television series produces and broadcasts in-depth documentaries about various subjects. Among various episodes, this quarter featured are: Abacus: Small Enough To Jail, Rape on the Night Shift, Exodus: The Journey Continues, North Korea's Deadly Dictator, The Gang Crackdown, Bitter Rivals: Iran and Saudi Arabia, Part 1, Bitter Rivals: Iran and Saudi Arabia, Part 2.

## **PBS NewsHour**

Airdate: Weekdays: January 1 – March 30, 2018  
Airtime: 5:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 1 hour

This award-winning program is known for its in-depth coverage of issues and current events with a highly objective and thoughtful approach and goes beyond the headline journalism of most broadcast television and partisanship of most cable news channels.

## **Washington Week**

Airdate: Fridays: January 5 – March 30, 2018  
Airtime: 7:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

This long-running PBS public affairs series featured Washington's top journalists analyzing the week's top news stories, and their effect on the lives of all Americans.

## **Deeper Look: The American Dream in Arkansas**

Airdate: Sunday: January 7, 2018  
Airtime: 11:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

In "A Deeper Look: The American Dream in Arkansas," AETN visits two cities facing unique struggles. Most would agree that Blytheville and Pine Bluff have both seen better times - bustling downtown areas, vibrant social scenes and good economies. The downtown streets of both cities are eerily quiet these days. Once beautiful, ornate buildings sit exposed to the elements. At first glance, reflecting on the glory days of these cities, it would appear that the American dream in Arkansas is dead or dying. AETN looks deeper by spending two weeks immersed in each city, uncovering stories that shed light on the state of the American dream in Arkansas. The result is a half-hour examination of the state of the American dream in the Arkansas Delta.

"A Deeper Look: The American Dream in Arkansas" is part of the national initiative "Chasing the Dream: Poverty and Opportunity in America," which aims to provide a deeper understanding of the impact of poverty on American society and solutions to bring people out of poverty.

## **Deeper Look: The Poverty Divide in Arkansas**

Airdate: Sunday: January 14, 2018  
Airtime: 11:30 p.m.

Program Length: 30 minutes

According to the USDA, Arkansas has a poverty rate of 18.9 percent and a child poverty rate of 26 percent, with poverty levels continuing to rise throughout the state. AETN is working to further the discussion about poverty and opportunity in Arkansas in "A Deeper Look: The Poverty Divide in Arkansas."

This program will address the struggles of those living in poverty in the state and the organizations and resources available to help. A family will share their story of survival in trying times, and other segments will focus on Veterans Villages of America, poverty in urban and rural areas, food insecurity and more.

#### Segments Include:

Arkansas poverty statistics. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the national poverty rate is 15 percent, and Arkansas is at 19 percent. Research from Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families shows that 183,000 children (one in four) in the state are in poverty, while the U.S. Census Bureau found 21,000 veterans in poverty. In January 2016, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development reported 2,560 people were homeless in Arkansas. This segment features Gregory L. Hamilton, Ph.D., senior research economist for the UALR Institute for Economic Advancement.

Poverty in rural and urban areas. Urban and rural areas face unique struggles in poverty. Population and available resources create obstacles. Our House in Little Rock, a program for homeless and nearly homeless people, has access to many more resources than it would in a rural area, but it also gets far more requests than it can handle. Heifer USA, a division of Heifer International, is helping people in rural areas develop small farms in their own communities, but with complicated logistics, it isn't possible to help as many people as a program in an urban area. Those interviewed include: Patrick Tufford, Our House client; Georgia Mjartan, executive director, and Justin Sanders, director of client services, Our House; Ben Wihebrink, director of operations, Heifer USA; Cody Hopkins, general manager, Grass Roots Farmers' Cooperative in Clinton; Kerry Harrington, The Other Side Farm in Marshall.

Veterans in poverty. Housing affordability is the greatest housing problem among veterans, and HUD estimates that approximately 361 Arkansas veterans are homeless. This segment features retired U.S. Army Col. Mike Ross and his organization Veterans Villages of America, which strives to bring services together for veterans in need. Among those the organization is helping is World War II veteran Theoda "Uncle Jack" Butler, who at 90 years old needed assistance with repairs to his home. Also featured is Afghanistan war veteran Taylor LaBue, whose personal story of PTSD caused difficulties when he returned home. LaBue founded Veterans Impact – Central Arkansas Veterans Mental Health Council and shares how his advocacy work with veterans has given him support and purpose.

Families in poverty. Thomas and Louise Bolton, along with their five children, struggle to make ends meet in one of the highest crime areas in Little Rock. Thomas provides their only source of income, working 16 hours a day shuttling Medicaid patients from one appointment to the next. Louise looks for work herself, filling out countless applications, but a felony arrest from her youth plagues her. Unable to find a job, she focuses on furthering her education, recently obtaining an associate degree,

as she hopes to put her past behind her. With bills stacking up, including a recent eviction notice, the Boltens hold to one another, more thankful for what they have than what they don't.

"A Deeper Look: The Poverty Divide in Arkansas" is part of the national initiative "Chasing the Dream: Poverty and Opportunity in America," which aims to provide a deeper understanding of the impact of poverty on American society and solutions to bring people out of poverty.

## **6. HEALTH / HEALTHCARE**

### **Classical Stretch**

Airdate: Monday – Saturdays: January 1 – March 31, 2018  
Airtime: 5:30 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

With a focus on overall wellness as well as physical fitness, Classical Stretch belongs to a new generation of exercise programming. Each episode features a new method of stretching the entire body, gently and artistically – the first comprehensive, overall stretching program created for public television.

### **Sit and Be Fit**

Airdate: Saturdays: January 6 – March 31, 2018  
Airtime: 6:00 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

Each week, this program addresses the gentle exercise needs of seniors and those with physical limitations. Elements of the show include a section devoted to viewer health concerns, exercises set to age-appropriate music, relaxation techniques, and strengthening and stretching routines utilizing a variety of easy-to-use items around the home.

### **Yoga with Andrea**

Airdate: Saturdays: January 6 – March 31, 2018  
Airtime: 6:30 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

Andrea Fournet from Arkansas Yoga Center leads viewers through vinyasas and poses to inspire a healthier life. Options and modifications are given for beginning and advanced yogis.

## 7. MINORITY ISSUES

### **To the Contrary with Bonnie Erbe**

Airdate: Sundays: January 7 – December 30, 2018

Airtime: 9:30 a.m.

Program Length: 30 minutes

This weekly news analysis program is the only woman-centered national news/talk show on television. Dedicated to the premise that women of all ethnic backgrounds and political persuasions are an important part of the national dialogues, the series provides a platform for the multifaceted views of involved, informed women journalists and commentators. Topics range from women's health to family issues to women in the workplace, the environment, women in finance, and education.