

Issues Report
Third Quarter – 2017

KEYC News 12 – Mankato, MN

Description of programming providing the most significant treatment of community issues.

Completed and uploaded on or before October 10, 2017.

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10/6/17

KEYC-TV

TV QUARTERLY ISSUES/PROGRAMS REPORT PERIOD JULY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

ATTACHED ARE LISTINGS OF BROADCASTS OR BROADCAST SEGMENTS WHICH, IN THE STATION'S JUDGEMENT, REFLECT THE STATION'S MOST SIGNIFICANT TREATMENT OF ASCERTAINED COMMUNITY ISSUES DURING THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017.

PROGRAM INDEX:

<u>PROGRAM:</u>	<u>DAY:</u>	<u>TIME:</u>
• KEYC News 12 Morning	Monday-Friday	7:25; 7:55; 8:25; 8:55AM
• KEYC News 12 Midday	Monday-Friday	12:00-12:30PM
• KEYC News 12 @ 5	Monday-Friday	5:00-5:30PM
• KEYC News 12 @ 6	Monday-Saturday	6:00-6:30PM
• KEYC News 12 @ 9	Monday-Sunday	9:00-9:30PM
• KEYC News 12 @ 10	Monday-Sunday	10:00-10:30PM
• Face the Nation	Sunday	9:30-10:30AM
• 60 Minutes	Sunday	6:00-7:00PM
• 48 Hours	Saturday	9:00-10:00PM

"KEYC News 12" is a regularly scheduled half-hour newscast that is locally produced. It has a mix of news, weather, sports, and community issue-related feature reports. Duration of stories listed in this report range from 1 to 5 minutes.

- CBS Evening News Monday-Friday 5:30-6:00PM

This is a CBS produced news program featuring news, information and perspectives on the daily events of the nation and the world. The program also features special features on issues and concerns of the nation. These special issue oriented reports are approximately three minutes long.

- CBS Morning News Monday-Friday 6:30-7:00AM
- CBS This Morning Monday-Friday 7:00-9:00AM
- CBS This Morning Saturday 6:00-8:00AM

This CBS produced news program features news, interviews, weather and information segments and feature reports on issues and concerns of the American Public. The community issue segments usually are three to four minutes long.

- CBS Sunday Morning Sunday 8:00-9:30AM

This CBS produced news magazine program focuses on three to four issues or entertainment oriented reports in each week's program. Many of these reports are interviews. Each report averages ten to twelve minutes long.

Issues/Programs List

KEYC-TV, Mankato, Minnesota

2017 – Q3

Community Issues:

- 1. Agricultural Economy**
- 2. Healthy Lifestyles**
- 3. Transportation**
- 4. Education**

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY:

Each weekday morning at 6:00, KEYC News 12 airs “Ag Day,” a program dedicated to the latest agriculture news related to farm policy, farm market trends, agriculturally related weather topics and events as well as human interest stories throughout farm country.

On Sunday mornings at 6:00, KEYC News 12 airs “U.S. Farm Report,” a program dedicated to showcasing agriculture business experts and reports on the latest news and human interest stories that are affecting American farmers.

Also on Sunday mornings, at 10:30, KEYC News 12 airs “Ag PhD,” a program dedicated to offering valuable tips to the farming community and to educate the non-farming community on the basics of agriculture.

Grain and livestock prices are displayed during KEYC News 12 Midday, KEYC News 12 at 5, and KEYC News 12 at 6.

Each Friday on KEYC News 12 Midday and Saturday on KEYC News 12 at 6, local agriculture expert Lynn Ketelsen shares the latest in farm technology and issues facing local producers.

Each week, KEYC News 12 followed the latest crop report of the US Department of Agriculture on the condition of corn and soybean crops in Minnesota and Iowa and spoke with local producers on what they are seeing in their fields.

A mild and rainy June helped the corn and soybean crops of Southern Minnesota and Northern Iowa grow. As we kicked off July, KEYC News 12 took a look at the old saying, “Knee High by the Fourth of July,” and indeed found good growing conditions helping the crops grow and mature.

KEYC News 12 continued our weekly series on the latest in agricultural research with the University of Minnesota Extension Outreach Center in Waseca. Each Tuesday, KEYC News 12 showed viewers the latest on weed control techniques, vegetable growth and tenderness for consumption, polyculture, fertilizer application, invasive pests, new cash crops, tracking weather data and the latest in livestock feed.

On July 13, viewers heard from US Senator Al Franken of Minnesota on the latest EPA standards for renewable fuels and how the growth of the fuels use across the country can be of a benefit to Minnesota agricultural producers.

Listening sessions were held in late July and into August across the region as lawmakers wanted to hear directly from the people on the issues that should be addressed in the next US Farm Bill as a new bill will need to be passed in 2018.

There is a growing movement among consumers to know where their food is coming from. On August 9, KEYC News 12 viewers learned about several local businesses that are partnering directly with producers and hosting events such as “Farm to Table” for consumers to meet their producers.

Cover crops are growing in popularity. These are crops that are planted between other crops to help cut down on erosion or even serving as protection in the winter months. On August 31, KEYC News 12 showed viewers how one local county is helping its producers use cover crops to not only increase revenue but also to protect the environment.

As harvest season approached in mid to late September, KEYC News 12 looked at lessons being taught in the community about safety not only on the farm but for others. Several classes were taught to area school children about the dangers of equipment. KEYC News 12 also spoke with law enforcement to remind drivers of the size of farm equipment and the rules of sharing the road.

As September came to an end, KEYC News 12 looked at how the weather impacted the apple and grape harvest in the region, which are becoming a growing part of the agricultural community in the region.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES:

KEYC News 12 is partnering with other community members for an initiative known as *Thrive: Eat, Move, Sleep*. Two times per week, viewers learn about nutritional benefits of certain foods, better ways to get exercise or avoid injury during exercise, and attaining better sleep by making small changes in daily habits. The segments air on Tuesday's and Thursday's during KEYC News 12 at 5:00 and 10:00.

KEYC News 12 also broadcasts developing health stories and studies regularly on its Midday, 5:00pm, 9:00pm, and 10:00pm weekday news programs.

In July, discussions began at both the Mankato and North Mankato city council meetings to increase the tobacco purchasing age from 18 to 21. The movement comes on the heels of other Minnesota cities doing the same. As the summer continued, the cities continued discussions back and forth about getting their ordinances to be in line with each other. As of the end of September, the issue is still on the table as the councils continue to work to come together.

As debate continues in Washington, D.C. over the repealing and replacement of the Affordable Care Act, a local forum was held in Mankato on July 18th to discuss the uncertainty of the act's future, but also the rising costs of healthcare.

The Minnesota Department of Human Services visited the area to look to a local town that found a solution to a shortage of child care. The city of Franklin, Minnesota worked with a local businesses and the school to create a daycare. This helped cut down on the number employees needing to find care for their children.

Rural healthcare is key to many residents of southern Minnesota and northern Iowa and one local hospital is helping so residents don't need to travel so far to receive adequate care. The Madelia Community Hospital received a grant to purchase a new CT Scan. This will help patients not have to travel far distances or have to wait to get an appointment elsewhere.

Substance abuse is a growing concern across the US and the local area is no different. On July 25, KEYC News 12 showed viewers one local facility that is helping those on the road to recovery. Alex's House has been in LeCenter since 2015 and has helped those with drug and alcohol addictions.

On August 1, Minnesota law changed to allow those suffering from Posttraumatic Stress Disorder or Posttraumatic Stress Syndrome to be allowed to use medical marijuana.

Just ahead of the great Solar Eclipse of 2017, KEYC News 12 spoke with a doctor about the dangers of looking directly at the sun and offered ways for viewers to safely view the rare event.

On August 21, KEYC News 12 featured a new mental health facility that opened its doors in Mankato. What makes this facility unique is that it is geared towards children and adolescents. The facility located in Mankato because of the growing need for such services.

The community hospital in St. Peter is going to be expanding. On August 25, KEYC News 12 showed viewers the plans for the expanded facility and how much it will cost taxpayers.

On August 30th, a forum was held at Minnesota State University on the growing opioid epidemic in the United States. Experts shared stories with the public on how the crisis got started and how it can be stopped from getting worse.

Unusually warm and humid air made for some tricky breathing in September. Combined with the heat and humidity, smoke from wildfires in Canada made for some bad air quality in the region for a string of days. KEYC News 12 spoke with local health providers on how viewers can protect themselves from the pollutants in the air.

As September came to a close, KEYC News 12 looked at the upcoming flu season and the importance of getting the flu vaccine each year.

On September 27, an event was held to talk about the possibility of the greater Mankato area becoming a Blue Zone. The Blue Zone project is based on comprehensive, inclusive, evidence based population health strategies that work with people, places, and policies where they spend our most time. This was just the beginning of the discussion to see if there was interested in bringing the concept to the Mankato area. Future discussions are planned.

TRANSPORTATION:

Improvements continued to the robust system of roadways in southern Minnesota this summer. The Department of Transportation continued work on some major roadways across the region. KEYC News 12 featured updates on many of these projects as they continued through the summer, looking at how summer rainfall caused some projects to be delayed.

As the Mankato area continues to grow eastward, the city of Mankato as well as Blue Earth County are working on putting a road system in place. On July 13, KEYC News 12 told viewers about building of a roundabout with a new county road planned for the eastern side as it intersects with an existing state highway. The new roadway, it is hoped, will help ease traffic on existing roads but also help guide expansion of the city.

The North Mankato City Council commissioned a study of the downtown area's main roadway, Belgrade Avenue. On July 24th, the council heard the results of the study. KEYC News 12 showed viewers the host of potential changes and what it would mean for safety but also the economics of the downtown area.

Following our story on July 25, KEYC News 12 spoke with residents and businesses in the downtown Mankato area. The proposed changes received a lot of feedback on social media.

While the DOT is busy with existing projects, they are also planning for the future. On August 3, they held an open house to discuss the second part of an on-going project that will put a roundabout at the intersection of Highway 22 and County Road 90 on Mankato's southern end. This intersection has a higher than average crash rate, so the DOT is planning the install in order to make the intersection safer.

Construction wrapped up at the end of August in St. James on a pair of roundabouts in the city. The DOT along with the city hosted a roundabout rodeo. KEYC News 12 was there as residents were able to navigate the new roundabouts before they were opened to traffic. The DOT hosted the event because roundabouts are new to the city.

On September 11, KEYC News 12 showed viewers a new rural transportation system that will take residents of Blue Earth, LeSueur and Nicollet counties to their destination for a very affordable rate.

As a final leg of improvements to a major north-south roadway in the region, KEYC News 12 previewed work to be done in 2018 on Highway 169 between St. Peter and LeSueur. The last couple of years has featured work between Mankato and St. Peter to help reduce closings due to flooding and to repair poor road conditions.

August and September rainfall has pushed some road work projects behind by two to three weeks. As we move through the fall, KEYC News 12 will alert viewers to the completion of those projects.

EDUCATION:

The summer of 2017 began with a celebration of Minnesota State University's kick off of 150 years of being an institution of higher education. Started in 1868 as the Mankato Normal School, what is now Minnesota State University Mankato has grown to more than 15,000 students.

On July 10, MSU-Mankato announced that the upcoming homecoming celebration would feature a change to be more inclusive to all. Instead of having a king and queen there will just be homecoming royalty.

On July 11, KEYC News 12 covered Gustavus Adolphus College's largest financial gift in the history of the institution. An anonymous alumni couple donated \$40 million to the St. Peter college. Portions of the money will be used to support the renovation and expansion of the Nobel Hall of Science, home of the annual Nobel Conference at the college.

On July 19, KEYC News 12 told viewers about the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development awarding MSU-Mankato with \$225,000 in grant money to help with training employees in health care and manufacturing.

Also in July, KEYC News 12 went to St. Peter and Waseca High Schools to showcase the final stages of construction on newly renovated or new space. The new additions or facilities were funded by voters through referendum votes.

One local school district was among the more than 60 that received funding from the state to expand pre-school offering. On August 4th, KEYC News 12 told viewers what the Madelia school district plans to do with the extra funds.

Also in August, the Minnesota Department of Education released the results of the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment Tests. The assessments are used to find out how well schools have aligned curriculum and instructed students in the Minnesota Academic Standards in reading, mathematics, and science. On August 7, KEYC News 12 looked at the results for the Mankato school district and compared them to the state average.

By the middle of August, classes for the fall semester began at Minnesota State University Mankato. KEYC News 12 met up with the incoming class of freshman to see what they were most excited about for the year ahead as they moved into the dorms.

For the first time in 10 years, the Mankato School District is asking voters to approve an increase in the operating levy. That measure will be on the ballot come November. The extra \$7 million in a funding will go to day-to-day operations in the district.

Many school districts in the region are facing a shortage of qualified teachers. On August 22, KEYC News 12 showed viewers how the Fairmont school district is working to get qualified educators for the classroom.

Just before the school year began, KEYC News 12 showed viewers how they can get involved in education through volunteering and helping tutor students.

As the calendar flipped to September, students across southern Minnesota returned to the classroom. KEYC News 12 showcased the first day of classes at a handful of school districts and showed how students are enjoying their new spaces.

On top of Mankato looking to voters for increased funding, so too is the Maple River school district in Mapleton. They are asking voters to approve a bond referendum that would help build a new school building for students in grades K-12 for the district. The superintendent says that while the amount of the request has increased, a new state law will stop most of the burden from falling on farmers within the district.

As the school year began, the need for bus drivers increased. On September 13, KEYC News 12 told viewers about the need for more bus drivers, especially for fill-in needs as well as field trips because many of the company's full-time drivers have other jobs.

2017 marks 30 years since the towns of Sherburn, Welcome and Trimont came together to form the Martin County West School District. On September 21, KEYC News 12 took viewers to a schoolwide celebration and showed how the district continues to serve their students and the pride their alumni show.

KEYC News 12 spoke with US Senator Al Franken on September 28. The senator is working to push a bill through the senate that would enable universities across the county to use free online textbooks. The senator talked about how beneficial this law would be to Minnesota students, especially those that are tight on financial aid and are working for their education.

Also on September 28, KEYC News 12 went to the 90th anniversary celebration of Roosevelt Elementary in Mankato. The community was invited to tour the building and to meet with former students and teachers.

With the start of the new school year, KEYC News 12 kicked off the next year of Golden Apple Award winners. These stories feature teachers, administrators and paraprofessionals that go ahead and beyond in the classroom. These individuals are nominated by students and parents and KEYC News 12 features the winner on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month.