

Quarterly Issues / Programs List

Quarter 3

2013

KTXN-FM

The following is a listing of some of the issues responded to by KTXN-FM, Victoria, Texas along with most significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of July 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013 listing is no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance. All Programs are 30 minutes in length and air Sundays at 6:30am

July 7, 2013

The Public Information Office of the City of Victoria features Jeb Lacey, City and County Emergency Coordinator who discussed hurricane tips in light of being in the middle of hurricane season on the Gulf Coast.

Kate Garcia of the Environmental Services Department presented plans for the Ozone Season with hot temperatures already in the region.

Jennifer Sourdellia of the Public Information Office described the many blue markers that are popping up all over the city streets, which indicate fire hydrants for emergency responders.

July 14, 2013

Abortion legislation gets nearer to Gov. Rick Perry's desk as I type this sentence, but Texas Democrats are still rallying against the bill behind new star Wendy Davis. The fight over abortion in the state is far from over -- even after the bill is signed -- but the debate has now galvanized both Republicans and Democrats in the state as candidates are beginning to announce intent for the 2014 mid-term election. Rick Perry announced he will not run for another term, which is shaking things up across the board.

July 21, 2013

Since everyone can't seem to wait to get back into election mode, speculation over whether or not Wendy Davis enters the gubernatorial race continues to swirl. There are already two candidates in the Republican pool, and perceived front-runner Greg Abbott is already on the road. Also on this show: Stateimpact's three-part series on eminent domain laws, and a look at how outsiders are helping an indigenous group in Chihuahua, Mexico.

July 28, 2013

Texans are learning to live with a tough new anti-abortion law that will shut down 37 of the state's 42 abortion clinics. The law bans abortions after 20 weeks, requires abortion doctors to have admitting privileges at a near-by hospital, restricts the use of the abortion drug RU-486, and requires clinics to meet the standards of ambulatory surgical centers.

For the border region of the Rio Grande Valley, this means women will have little choice but to turn to dangerous alternatives to deal with an unwanted pregnancy. Some are traveling across the border to secure the drug Misoprostol. But health care workers in the Valley warn against such measures. "It's unsupervised medically," says Patricio Gozales, CEO of Planned Parenthood in the Rio Grande Valley. "They don't know what pills they are really getting. It may be the medication to induce an abortion and it may not be." From Matamoros, David Martin Davies reports.

August 4, 2013

From the City of Victoria Public Information Office:

Jared Mayfield- Swan Crossing Subdivision offers lower cost new housing for citizens
Lynn Short - The Water Exchange Program helps Victoria during this extreme period of drought

John Clagg - Safety tips if you work or play outdoors during the heat of the summer

Jennifer Sourdellia - Questions about Library Card for out-of-towners

August 11, 2013

With the visit of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius to Texas this week, key figures for and against the new health care bill are sounding off across the state. Even as the law continues to roll out, small business owners are still unsure about how they will handle employee health care. Also on this episode: A look at self-policing in the Houston Police Department.

ACA greeted by opposition and support

When U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius came to San Antonio and Austin this week to publicize the Oct. 1 launch of the sign-up for the online health insurance exchanges, Gov. Rick Perry issued some comments.

"As Sec. Sebelius brings her Obamacare promotion tour to Texas, to try to convince our citizens that Obamacare really isn't as bad as we already know it is, I hope she will take the time to hear from Texans who will bear the brunt of this destructive legislation.

While in San Antonio, Sebelius said her agency will be working directly with the city and other Texas cities to get the word out about the program and encourage people to go online to sign up.

San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro said there are multiple reasons why the city should work with the White House on Obamacare, including improving the health of the city and helping the city recapture funds being spent on emergency care like EMS transports.

"It is important for the city organization because we have, I believe, tens of millions of dollars of unpaid EMS fees because people take EMS and they don't have insurance and then they end up not paying the bill. So everyone, all the local taxpayers, are stuck with

that. So as a city organization, we have both a financial interest and also just an interest in the health and well being of the community to be an active participant in getting information out there."

Secretary Sebelius on the opposition she is receiving in Texas:

"While there hasn't been a lot of cooperation from state officials, there is a lot of enthusiasm and active help and support from a whole series of other officials and community leaders. So we have mayors throughout the State of Texas who are really engaged and involved and want to use their networks to get the word out to folks. We have members of the congressional delegation who voted for the bill in the first place who are strongly supporting enrollment and education activities. Certainly a lot of county officials."

August 18, 2013

The embattled Texas school finance system continues to discriminate against districts in poorer areas. Right now the Johnny Manziel autograph controversy is one of the biggest storylines in sports, and Texas Monthly explores his role as an American anti-hero. Also on this episode: Texas contract workers have little protection from injury and wage theft, but the Workers Defense Project is trying to change that. Sunday is the 200th anniversary of the "tremendous slaughter" that was the Battle of Medina.

In February a state judge found Texas's school finance system unconstitutional for the second time in a decade and Texas school districts will begin this year with big differences in state funding.

Everyone is talking about Johnny Manzie!, the Texas A&M star quarterback who is frequently called "Johnny Football" and is the first freshman to win the Heisman Trophy, the top individual award for college football players.

Manzie! is accused of violating strict NCAA (the governing body for student athletes) rules against players profiting from the game and the story is no longer just a sports story, it's a reflection of Texas values and the blurry definition of college football's amateur status.

Manzie! is featured on the new cover of Texas Monthly and Editor in Chief Jake Silverstein explains why this is such a big story.

Texas is the deadliest state for construction workers and is the only state that does not require building contractors to provide workers' compensation to cover hospital bills when a worker gets injured on the job.

Texas is also one of the biggest states when it comes to wage theft for construction workers, which is when, on pay day, the boss tells his contract workers to leave without paying them.

It used to be that unions would be the solution for worker grievances, but now organizations like the **Workers Defense Project** are coming forward looking for creative ways to protect the rights of documented and undocumented workers.

August 25, 2013

The struggle over the State of Texas' voter ID law is being taken up by everyone from Washington D.C. to Dallas County Commissioners Court. Also on this show: Sen. Ted Cruz talks about defunding the Affordable Care Act, Gov. Perry may or may not be interested in an ACA-created program, and TxDOT is waiting to turn South Texas roads into gravel.

On Thursday U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder announced that the Department of Justice is suing the State of Texas over voting rights violations with the state's voter ID law. The DOJ will also be joining a lawsuit over the state's redistricting maps, which critics have called discriminatory.

The action by Holder is the latest volley in the ongoing dispute between the federal government and the Lone Star State.

Texas Democrats welcomed the news, and state Rep. Trey Martinez Fischer of San Antonio, who has been a leader for the Democrats in the fight, recently met with Holder and President Obama at the White House to discuss strategy.

September 1, 2013

This full segment was dedicated to the activities that surround the city's Convention and Visitor's Bureau's annual Bootfest celebration. LaRue Roth, CVB director described the new activities planned for this year's event and event coordinator for the CVB Joel Novosad outlined a guide to the musical acts that will be appearing in the first weekend in October.

September 8, 2013

The issue with the Texas National Guard's refusal to process same-sex couple benefits raises a deciding question: Can the Texas National Guard refuse a Pentagon directive? Also on this show: The Affordable Care Act and undocumented innnigrants, insurance premiums with the ACA and Bible verses on highschool football banners.

This week the Texas National Guard announced it will not provide benefits for same-sex couples, despite a Pentagon directive requiring the military to treat all marriages equally. Maj. Gen. Jolm Nichols, the commanding general of Texas Military Forces, said in an internal memo that the Texas Constitution and the state's "Family Code" conflicts with the Defense Department's policy.

The Texas National Guard is now requesting guidance from Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, who is running for governor and has a long history of fighting against same-sex marriage equality.

September 15, 2013

As we quickly approach the opening of the online marketplaces tied to the Affordable Care Act on Oct. 1, community organizations are promoting enrollment while those opposed to the law continue their fight against it. Also: Will there be political fallout in the state for not expanding Medicaid under the ACA? And why Texas has become the "Wild West" for electronic cigarettes.

Despite the best efforts of the state's leadership, the health care rollout is coming to Texas and outreach efforts are now under way to get the word out to the people who need it the most.

The nation's biggest recipient of federal dollars to promote the new health care changes is in Texas at the United Way of TruTant County, who used their \$5.9 million to hire health "navigators" to help Texans sign up for health insurance thru the exchanges. The nonprofit is the lead organization of a group that covers about 220 of the 254 counties in Texas.

September 22, 2013

A look at major issues from all over the state this week -- Tom DeLay is acquitted of money laundering, the American Bar Association reviews the states system of capital punishment, alleged scandal with the dunes sagebrush lizard and a water tug-of-war between the Highland Lakes and Matagorda Bay.

If this isn't money laundering, then what is?

Tom DeLay was known as "the Hammer" when he was the Republican congressman from Sugarland and the house majority leader. He played a tough brand of partisan politics and talked openly about his plan for a permanent Republican majority. But in 2005 he was indicted on felony money laundering charges -- which he was eventually convicted of -- and on Thursday that conviction was overturned on appeal, acquitting him of all charges.

Craig Holman is the government affairs lobbyist for Public Citizen in Washington D.C. "The facts of the case are not in dispute, what is in dispute is how one interprets 'money laundering.' The original jury determined that money laundering had, in fact, happened because Tom DeLay had raised \$190,000 in corporate money. Texas may not have a very strong campaign finance law but it does take seriously the prohibition against corporate contributions to candidates. So DeLay laundered the corporate money out to the Republican National Party which then sent back the same amount of funds raised from individuals to be given to seven different candidates in Texas. The original jury ruled that this is just flat-out money laundering and I strongly agree. this is just taking illegal money and cleansing it for the purpose of making campaign contributions" The Texas Public Integrity Office is appealing the acquittal.

Texas continues to carry out capital punishment more than any other state. The state has executed 12 men so far this year and six more people are scheduled for 2013. The most

recent execution was Thursday as Robert Gene Garza was put to death for his part in a gang ambush where four women were gunned down in the Rio Grande Valley. Garza maintained his innocence until the end and said his confession to police was made under duress and improperly obtained.

The way Texas conducts capital murder trials is taking some harsh criticism from the American Bar Association. They say Texas has made a lot of improvements over the years but there is still a long way to go to meet the standards of many other states who also have the death penalty.

Jennifer Laurin is a professor in the School of Law at the University of Texas at Austin and helped write the ABA report.

"Aside from isolated deficiencies in practices, Texas' system of administering the death penalty is one that really lacks checks and balances from beginning to end such that individual errors, or individual bad practices, are insulated from discovery -- and in some cases are exacerbated by other practices at other stages in the process."

September 29, 2013

Wendy Davis will finally announce her decision on the governor's race, which will finally end the speculating and kick the 2014 election campaigning into a new gear. Ted Cruz' attempt to "defund Obamacare" is still playing itself out, but has he gained or lost political capital? The insurance exchanges that are part of the Affordable Care Act open up on Oct. 1 and people for and against the new health care law are working their tails off for their case. A look at boomtowns from Mose Buchele of State Impact Texas, and last, a few words about sustainability from an International Space Station flight controller.

Democrats Have Faith In Davis Run

It's been widely speculated that Sen. Wendy Davis, D-Fort Worth, will run for governor and she would be the highest profile democrat to run for the office since Ann Richards. The other side of the ticket is led by Attorney General Greg Abbott, who is seeking the GOP nomination.

Davis will formally make an announcement about her political future on October 3 in the auditorium where she received her high school diploma in 1981, the Wiley G. Thomas Coliseum in Haltom City.

Davis brings a lot of excitement to the governor's race but Republicans are downplaying the news. They say she won't change the math that keeps electing their candidates to office in Texas.

But in one North Texas suburb, Democrats are optimistic that Davis can reverse their party's losing streak.

This week Texas Sen. Ted Cruz took to the Senate floor and spoke for over 21 hours against the Affordable Care Act. Cruz is trying to strip the ACA funding from the federal government stop gap spending bill - threatening a government shut down.

He had promised to speak against the ACA until he could no longer stand, but only made it until Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said it was time to move on. A short while later, he voted in favor of the bill he had just spent the night trying to stop.

Along the way Cruz raised his political profile and made plenty of people mad at him - including some in his own party.

Burgess Everett, congressional reporter for POLITICO.com:

"You could write a story about the rift between Ted Cruz and any number of Republican or Democratic senators at this point. He's not really interested in playing this inside game in the Senate where you just get to be friendly with people, figure out where you have a little common ground on compromising and he seems to be pretty proud of that."

It was planned that when the Affordable Care Acts Health Insurance Exchanges go live online on Tuesday - October the first there would be people available to help others figure out the system. These are the Navigators. But not now.

Gov. Rick Perry has recently ordered that the navigators must have an additional 40 hours of training and meet other requirements. Critics say this is Perry again doing all he can to hobble the roll out of the ACA. If he's successful in Texas it could have repercussions for the ACA nationwide.

Locals sing the boomtown blues in West Texas and beyond

Unemployment in Texas stands at 6.4 percent -- lower than the national average of 7.3 percent -- and the area with the lowest unemployment in Texas is in Midland/Odessa at 3.2 percent. What's it like to live in a place with the lowest unemployment in Texas and the fastest growing GDP in the country? Maybe not as wonderful as it sounds, especially in an area that's had its share of oil busts.

Mose Buchele has been looking into the development in West Texas and reports on the pitfalls of prosperity for Midland-Odessa and beyond.

Sustainability and space technology

This weekend in Fredericksburg, Texas is the 13th annual Renewable Energy Roundup & Green Living Fair -- the largest renewable energy event in Texas. As many are looking for ways to keep the earth healthy for future generations, some are turning their gaze to the heavens looking for clues in what works.

Diane Dailey is a certified International Space Station flight controller for NASA. She'll be taking part in the fair discussing her work in keep life support systems operational for the International Space Station.

"We're really limited on re-supply capability for the International Space Station. Think about how much it costs to launch every pound -- and water and air are very heavy -- so we really make efforts to have our life supports as closed loop as possible. So really that means capturing as much waste as possible and basically utilizing everything we possibly can to re-use it. So very similarly to the earth being sustainable is reducing our waste and being efficient with how we use our water and our air and the consumables that we have."

Public Service Time July, 2013

Boots for Soldiers 10 minutes

Public Service Time August, 2013

Disaster Relief 12 minutes

Defeat Hunger 5 minutes

Foreclosure Prevention 3 minutes

Buzzed Driving 1.5 minutes

Stop Bullying 4 minutes

Cuero Chamber of Commerce Fund Raiser 10.5 minutes

Stuff the Bus for School Supplies 7.5 minutes

Ad Council/Copy Cat 4.5 minutes

Tire Safety 2.5 minutes

Public Service Time September, 2013

Texas Tunes for The Texas Zoo 80 minutes