

## WKKS PUBLIC INSPECTION FILE FOURTH QUARTER 2022

COVID-19 . . . With the issues surrounding response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) at the federal, state and local levels, WKKS and WKKS-FM have continued extended coverage and use of air time to provide news and information to our listeners on this continuing threat to our residents since mid-February 2020. We continue to devote a portion of each newscast to promote vaccine availability and provide current state and local information.

The daily coverage since March 6, 2020, when an emergency was declared in Kentucky has included newscasts with Local and State COVID information and numbers, and regular interviews with Judge Executive Todd Ruckel, Judge Executive Jimmy Lykins, Judge Executive Craig Stanfield, Emergency Management Directors George Sparks and Dennis Brown, Vanceburg Mayor Dana Blankenship, Health Director Anita Bertram and School Superintendent Jamie Weddington, among others.

Most weekly press conferences with Governor Andy Beshear have been aired live. The daily press conferences ended in May 2021 with the improvement of numbers but have resumed as needed (Now every Thursday at 12:30 p.m.).

While the governor's press briefings no longer centered on COVID-19 beginning in early March 2022, WKKS and WKKS-FM have continued to carry the now weekly briefings which have been on a variety of topics of interest to Kentuckians. Many of the briefings since the end of July have focused on extensive flooding in Eastern Kentucky. Many local organizations and individuals have assisted in the post-flooding efforts of those affected communities.

COVID-19 PSAs from every available source, including locally produced, have been aired extensively. Many of the interviews have been conducted in the offices of Lewis County Emergency Management and Lewis County Health Department and uploaded to WKKS Studios.

WKKS and WKKS-FM provide listeners with regularly scheduled national, state and local news, sports and weather and regularly scheduled public affairs programming to address issues of concern to our listeners, including:

### NEWSCASTS

AP National News (24/7)

Local and Regional Newscasts at 7a, 730a, 8a, Noon, and 5p. Hourly Weather Forecasts

Special Weather Statements as warranted

SPECIAL NEWS COVERAGE OF  
COVID-19 at the state and local levels  
Lewis County Fiscal Court  
Vanceburg City Council  
Lewis County Board of Education  
Vanceburg Electric Plant Board

Lewis County Chamber of Commerce  
Lewis County Tourism/Economic Development  
Lewis County Emergency Management

SPECIAL PROGRAMMING  
EAS Weather Bulletins  
Lewis County Extension Office Reports

WEEKLY UPDATES FROM GOVERNOR ANDY BESHEAR  
Severe Weather Response  
Legislative session updates  
Economic Development  
COVID-19 Updates

Consumer Science information is a weekly public affairs program that airs Thursdays @12:15 p.m. and is hosted by Amanda Broderick with the local Extension Office. Segments have included information on processed foods, chronic stress in today's world, probiotics, walking for exercise, using baby formula safety, benefits of an involved dad, bank phishing scams, and vaping among teens.

Religious programming Sunday mornings and Sunday nights, and Wednesday nights.

Lewis County High School Athletics (football, boys and girls basketball, baseball, softball, and volleyball).

Community Leaders (Interviews addressing local issues).

A local Bluegrass music program featuring local artists airs on Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

We air :30 and :60 second public service messages for events, activities, and issues of concern in our local community. In addition to various national PSAs, this quarter, they include but are not limited to:

EKY Flooding and ways to help  
Suicide Prevention  
High School Sports  
COVID-19  
Don't text and drive  
Kentucky State Police  
Adoption  
Vanceburg Lions Club  
Tollesboro Lions Club  
Chamber of Commerce  
Girl Scouts  
First Steps  
Lewis County Extension Office  
Lewis County Library

Weather Safety  
Phone Scams  
Fire Prevention  
Lewis County Schools Extracurricular Activities  
Lewis County Adult Education

Timely PSAs  
High School Diploma  
Kid Safety  
Ky Nect  
GED  
Suicide Prevention  
Gun Safety  
Vaccinate against COVID-19  
Vaccinate against Flu  
COVID PSAs  
Get Your Vaccine and Booster  
Get Your Vaccine/Younger 16-28  
Get Your Vaccine/Youth & Parent

#### FOURTH QUARTER 2022 ISSUES - WKKS & WKKS-FM PSAs

Winter Weather Preparedness  
EKY Flooding  
Local road checkpoints by Sheriff's Department  
Suicide Prevention  
Veterans  
KY Broadcasters  
Wildfires  
COVID-19 PSAs Include  
Call First  
Mental Health  
COVID-19 Kentucky Broadcasters  
COVID-19 Local

School construction. - Construction continues at Lions Lane facilities and work is underway on new Garrison Elementary facility. Plans for work to begin soon at Tollesboro Elementary and Laurel Elementary.  
Live election coverage following general election

Work underway by local officials to construct a recreational park at the Black Oak Industrial Park.  
Local Ambulance Service concerns after provider announced possible closure of local hub. Current efforts are underway to create a countywide ambulance service district and establish an ambulance tax.

#### SCHOOLS

Assisted with providing information on school and athletic events for Lewis County Schools. COVID-19 changes and school board decisions on masking. Distance learning information and options discussed and information provided.

#### DOWNTOWN VANCEBURG

Mayor Dane Blankenship interview about street improvements and blacktopping.

#### ROADS

News segments included stories on road improvements including safety improvements for school zones. Blacktopping projects on the AA Highway, KY 8 and KY 59 near Vanceburg.

Updates on road work being done in various areas of the county. School Zone safety a priority.

Plans for severe weather and addressing road conditions.

#### WEATHER

Participation in local monthly testing of outdoor warning sirens and participation in events with local Emergency Management officials and National Weather Service officials in Wilmington, Ohio.

Provided listeners with special weather statements concerning flash flooding and winter storms.

Promoted ways to receive weather and closing reports by subscribing to local texting service. (Promotion of Lewis County Alert System.)

Participation in national and state EAS testing.

#### FARM AND HOME

Agriculture Extension Agent Phillip Knopka addressed various topics on his weekly program (Fridays at 12:15 p.m.). Topics included:

Planting bulbs

Preventing & managing fall pest

Planting garlic

Wood burning dollars

Fall maintenance for lawn mowers

Thinking ahead for livestock winter needs

Indoor winter gardening

Is fat a bad thing

Chainsaw safety

Cold weather and livestock

Firewood insects

#### ADULT EDUCATION

Adult education is a critical part of the economy. Adults without a GED or high school diploma will struggle financially, often being a drain on society. Adult Ed reps recorded PSAs to run that promote the program and explain available funding to assist students. The Adult Ed office has fully reopened following a closure during much of the COVID-19 restrictions. PSAs from Vanceburg Mayor Dane Blankenship promoting local services available including online and in-person services.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

News and PSAs to stress fire safety (Fall Fire Hazard Season - Through middle of December). News segments included information on outdoor burning safety. Special reports for winter storms and emergency levels in the listening area. Warming center was activated December 23-26 as temperatures/wind chills dropped to below 0. Provided extended coverage of weather and road conditions for winter storm over Christmas weekend.

\* A copy of this document was placed in the station's local Public Inspection File on January 6, 2023.

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