

Issues/Programs Report

1Q 2012

April 5, 2012

Per the FCC, this is a list of the most frequently cited issues of concern to the people in the WBHM/WSGN listening area during the last quarter. The list details the most significant programs addressing these issues. All of these programs were published at WBHM.ORG and broadcast on WBHM 90.3 FM and WSGN 91.5 FM between January 1, 2012 and March 31, 2012. The list includes the following issues:

ARTS

ECONOMY

EDUCATION

GOVERNMENT

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

WBHM 90.3 FM Wins Six Alabama AP Awards

2012-03-14;

Public Radio WBHM 90.3 FM's Southern Education Desk Reporter Dan Carsen is the recipient of three awards for excellence in broadcast journalism for his reporting on education issues in Alabama.; .

ARTS

Gordon Lightfoot

2012-01-13;

Over his 50+ year career, singer/songwriter Gordon Lightfoot has produced a string of hits. His songs have been recorded by Peter, Paul and Mary, Bob Dylan, even Elvis. He's mostly remembered in this country for his hits from the 1970s and the occasional public TV fundraiser. But Gordon Lightfoot is nothing short of a national treasure in his native Canada. At the tender age of 73 he still spends a lot of time on the road and this Sunday evening his tour bus stops at the Alabama Theatre . Greg Bass talked to Gordon Lightfoot.; .

Light Skits

2012-01-27;

After going through some tough times with the death of his father, Light Skits founding member Sam Goodwin needed to express himself creatively. He says the resulting album, Nooks & Crannies, lets listeners inside his mind. With diverse song structures, complex math-pop riffs and screamo vocals, Light Skits lets you rock loud and hard.; .

The Jefferson County Sound

2012-02-06; 533, 733, 1645

Gospel music has long been a fixture in African American churches around Birmingham. A new documentary film looks at the revolution of a style of gospel music called the Jefferson County Sound. Greg Bass takes a closer look for WBHM's Tapestry.; 4:00.

Girl Scout Cookie Terrorists

2012-02-10; 1645

If you're running errands this weekend, possibly doing some grocery shopping, you may run across some very young, but very persistent sales people. Funny Lady Francesca Rosko prefers to call them terrorists...; 3:30.

Gin Phillips

2012-02-24;

The Los Angeles times called Birmingham author Gin Phillips's first book *The Well and The Mine* an astonishing new novel. It's been compared to *To Kill a Mockingbird* and earned Phillips the Barnes and Noble Discover Award. So when Phillips started shopping her next novel, *Come In and Cover Me*, she admits there was a bit of pressure. *Come In and Cover Me* follows the story of Ren Taylor -- an archeologist who's on a mission to understand an ancient community, but ends up discovering some things about herself. ; .

Sam Frazier

2012-03-23;

The Blues run through the blood of Birmingham musician Sam Frazier Jr. He grew up in Edgewater, the son a coal miner who brought home stories that would eventually inspire Frazier's songwriting. His family would host local barbeques and shows at his mom's house. Performing next to big name artists such as Howl'n Wolf and Jimmy Reed was a typical thing in Frazier's life. Frazier's latest album is *The Long Lonesome Blues*. ; .

Living in Limbo: Lesbian Families in the Deep South

2012-03-30;

An Alabama museum long focused on civil rights is introducing a new topic: Lesbian awareness in the South. The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute opens the exhibit tonight. It depicts some women arm-in-arm or embracing, their faces fully visible. Others who weren't comfortable being identified publicly are pictured with their backs to the camera. ; 4:00.

ECONOMY

Magic City Marketplace

2012-01-02; 6:35, 8:35, 16:45

An economic preview of 2012; 4:00.

Magic City Marketplace

2012-01-09; 6:35, 8:35, 16:45

The Birmingham Business Alliance considers forming a PAC, Regions sells bad loans and a positive jobs survey; 4:00.

The January 2012 Tornado

2012-01-23; 16:45, 18:45

Residents along the north side of Birmingham are digging out after a line of storms rumbled across the state early Monday morning. A tornado killed at least two people in Jefferson County. And as WBHM's Andrew Yeager reports, the damage is a reminder of the killer tornados which struck the state just last spring; 3:02.

Magic City Marketplace

2012-01-23; 6:35, 8:35, 16:45

Regions sells its brokerage unit, Sterne Agee gets into banking and a look at county health inspections; 4:00.

Magic City Marketplace

2012-01-30; 6:35, 8:35, 16:45

The business effects of January's tornado, government and business headaches from Alabama's immigration

law and the state's new economic development plan; 4:00.

Magic City Marketplace

2012-02-06; 6:35, 8:35, 16:45

A bill to block non-user sewer fees, more homes bought with cash and a poor year for Birmingham's publicly traded companies.; 4:00.

Magic City Marketplace

2012-02-13; 6:35, 8:35, 16:45

A high profile music venue changes its name, a downtown office tower is for sale and an update of venture capital investment in Alabama; 4:00.

Magic City Marketplace

2012-02-27; 6:35, 8:35, 16:45

A new analysis shows that despite banking mergers and acquisitions, Birmingham is still among the top 10 largest banking centers in the country. ; 4:00.

Magic City Marketplace

2012-03-05;

A Birmingham construction company jumps into the lucrative health care sector and there may be a lot more graduates to fill Alabama's tech jobs.; .

Magic City Marketplace

2012-03-19;

New data suggests the hospital industry is bouncing back from the recession in a big way. The nine major hospitals in the Birmingham metro area netted more than \$154 million during fiscal year 2010. Thatâs more than seven times the amount they netted the previous year.; .

EDUCATION

Remembering UAB Legend Gene Bartow

2012-01-04; 16:30, 5:35, 7:35

The man referred to as the father of UAB athletics has died. Gene Bartow passed away Tuesday after a two-year battle with stomach cancer. He was 81. The hall of fame coach led teams at six universities, but it was at UAB where he really made his mark as the first mens basketball coach and first athletic director. WBHMâs Andrew Yeager has this remembrance.; 3:58.

Bards of Birmingham

2012-01-10; 06:30, 08:30, 16:30

When schools cut their budgets, arts and theater programs are often the first to go. But in Birmingham, a youth acting group is still teaching lessons to any kid with the chops to get on stage. It's also pushing boundaries in a way that might make some theater traditionalists and parents uncomfortable. From the Southern Education Desk at WBHM, Dan Carsen reports.; .

Charter Schools: None in Alabama, but May Change Soon

2012-01-17; 12:00

In a national ranking on charter schools, Alabama did not even come in last. That's because the state is one of only nine that doesn't have charter schools, but that could change, and soon. Dan Carsen has more for the Southern Education Desk at WBHM;; .

State Lawmakers Consider Education Reforms

2012-02-07; 633, 833, 1645

When lawmakers return to Montgomery today for the beginning of the 2012 legislative session, they'll have a lot of meaty issues to deal with, from tweaks to the state's immigration law to a potential \$400 million budget shortfall. They'll also tackle several education reform initiatives. The Southern Education Desk's Dan Carsen fills us in.; 4:25.

Carsen and Ott EduChat

2012-02-07; 633m 833

When lawmakers returned to Montgomery for the beginning of the 2012 legislative session, they had a lot of meaty issues to deal with, from tweaks to the state's immigration law to a potential \$400 million budget shortfall. They're also tackling several education reform initiatives, and as the Southern Education Desk's Dan Carsen told WBHM's Tanya Ott, this year looks to be a lot like last year, with plenty of controversial issues on the table.; 4:00.

Interview with Education Reformer Michelle Rhee

2012-02-08; 6:30, 8:30, 16:30

Michelle Rhee is an education reformer known for making controversial moves. After closing schools in Washington D.C., she was featured on the cover of Time magazine holding a broom. Her group StudentsFirst is in Alabama pushing for charter schools and new ways to evaluate teachers, among other things. She spoke with Southern Education Desk reporter Dan Carsen, who asked her about what her group's goals mean for people around here. ; 6:40 with intro and back announce.

How Much Do You Know About Charter Schools?

2012-02-08;

Alabama Governor Robert Bentley says charter school legislation will pass in the 2012 legislative session. Bentley outlined his education priorities in his State of the State address last night. The head of the Alabama Education Association vehemently opposes bringing charter schools to Alabama, calling them experimental and untested. Proponents say the taxpayer-funded schools that operate outside some of the rules that affect public schools offer more flexibility and accountability. Who's right? ; .

Carsen and Ott EduChat

2012-02-14; 633, 833

It's week two of the 2012 legislative session in Alabama and job creation and budget shortfalls continue to take center stage. Officials predict a budget gap in the many hundreds of millions of dollars â meaning cutbacks, possible layoffs, and other belt-tightening measures. WBHM's Dan Carsen of the Southern Education Desk tells Tanya Ott that the budget crisis in non-education departments could pit the Education Trust Fund against everything else.; 4:00.

Interview with Blaine Galliher on Religion in Public Schools

2012-02-15; 06:30, 08:30, 16:30

The First Amendment says â Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.â But does that mean public schools can give credit to students for creationism classes? What if they're off campus and privately funded? A bill in the state Legislature would authorize school boards to set up such â release timeâ programs. Dan Carsen speaks with its sponsor, House Rules Committee Chairman Blaine Galliher.; 6:51.

A Constitutional Law Scholar on Ala. Religion in Schools Bill

2012-02-16; 05:30, 07:30, 16:30

A bill in the Alabama House would allow public school students to get elective credit for religious instruction. Southern Education Desk reporter Dan Carsen recently interviewed Blaine Galliher, the bill's sponsor and a proponent of such â release timeâ programs. The programs would have to be approved by local school boards and would not cost the schools any money. And, Galliher said, students would not be coerced in any

way. But a day later, Dan discussed the bill with legal scholar and religious liberty advocate Douglas Laycock... ; 6:00.

Carsen and Ott EduChat

2012-02-21; 633, 833

When it comes to education in Alabama, it's safe to say there's enough going on to keep a journalist busy. In our third installment of a new weekly series, Southern Education Desk reporter Dan Carsen sits down with WBHM News Director Tanya Ott to break down some of it. The interview starts with a recap of recent reports on religion in public schools.; 4:00.

Dan Carsen Speaks with Education Icon Diane Ravitch

2012-02-22; 06:30; 08:30; 16:30

Diane Ravitch has been a key figure in American education for decades. The prolific author and outspoken advocate was Assistant Secretary of Education and Counselor to the Secretary of Education under the first President Bush. She was a pioneer in the accountability movement, but has since made friends and enemies by changing some of her views. She spoke with Southern Education Desk reporter Dan Carsen, who asked her about issues hot in Alabama right now, including charter schools, charter advocate Michelle Rhee, and much more.; 7:00.

African American Leaders Question Charter Schools

2012-02-23; 535, 735, 1645

Charter schools are being hotly debated in Alabama and in Mississippi, where opponents including African-American community leaders say charters will cause greater inequality in education and increased segregation in a state with a history of racial division. ; 3:15.

Birmingham-Southern's Basketball Team Still on Top

2012-02-24;

March madness is right around the corner, which means college basketball players are gearing up to make their mark on the postseason hardwood. Itâs a particularly exciting time for the Birmingham-Southern College menâs basketball team. Theyâre poised for a strong tournament run. But as WBHM intern Kenan Le Parc reports, the teamâs success comes in spite of several big challenges.; 3:15.

Carsen and Ott EduChat

2012-02-28;

Alabama legislators have their hands full with a variety of education bills at various stages of development, including ones that would authorize charter schools and offer credit for creationism classes for public high-schoolers. But for this weekâs chat with Southern Education Desk reporter Dan Carsen, we move outside of Montgomery for some interesting education news. Carsen tells WBHMâs Tanya Ott that some of it is positive, some of it not â beginning right here in Birmingham.; 4:00.

Carsen and Ott EduChat

2012-03-06; 4:00

Severe thunderstorms, hail, and multiple tornadoes raked Alabama last week. Were any schools hit? And are there figurative storms on the horizon for the state's Education Trust Fund? In this fifth installment of a weekly series, WBHM's Tanya Ott starts the interview by asking about storm damage and an incredible recovery. The education budget may not be so lucky.; 4:00.

Carsen and Ott EduChat

2012-03-13; 633, 833

This week's chat touches on the positive, the negative, and the in-between, or at least the in the eye of the beholder: politics once again makes an appearance.; 4:00.

Wilkerson Middle Defies the Odds

2012-03-20; 0:630, 08:30, 16:30

It's easy to focus on what's wrong with education. And it's no secret that Birmingham Schools, like other urban districts around the nation, face serious problems. But there are schools here that are achieving success regardless. From the Southern Education Desk at WBHM, Dan Carsen has much more.; 6:45.

Carsen and Ott EduChat

2012-03-27; 633, 833

Is the state legislature pitting business incentives against school funding? And why are some Republicans balking at the charter school bill? At least a situation that's literally toxic -- the mercury spill at Putnam Middle in Birmingham -- has been cleaned up.; 4:00.

GOVERNMENT

Local Government with Kyle Whitmire

2012-01-04; 16:45, 18:45

The latest Jefferson County bankruptcy hearing and State Senator Scott Beason considers a run for congress; 5:00.

Local Government with John Archibald

2012-01-05; 6:33, 8:33

Birmingham News columnist John Archibald reviews the top local news stories from 2011 and looks forward to 2012. ; 6:00.

Local Government with Kyle Whitmire

2012-01-11; 16:45, 18:45

Budget hearings in Jefferson County, Jefferson County's sewer receiver loses control of the sewer system and State Senator Scott Beason calls a press conference; 5:00.

John Archibald

2012-01-12;

Birmingham Mayor William Bell uses consent agenda to get \$500M in funding for a McDonald Restaurant and Nick Saban schedules a press conference and doesn't say what it's about. ; 4:30.

Local Government with Kyle Whitmire

2012-01-18; 16:45, 18:45

Jefferson County Commissioners call on legislators or reinstate an occupational tax and Stan Pate enters the race for Alabama's 6th Congressional District; 5:00.

Local Government with John Archibald

2012-01-19; 6:33, 8:33

John Archibald thinks Shelby County residents share the blame for a long-time teacher who's admitted molesting young girls and why Birmingham is the kick-off of a federal campaign against pay day loan operations. ; 6:00.

Local Government with Kyle Whitmire

2012-01-25; 16:45, 18:45

January's tornado's impact on Jefferson County's finances, the legislative fight over a Jefferson County occupational tax and Richard Scrushy is resented ; 5:00.

Local Government with Kyle Whitmire

2012-02-01; 16:45, 18:45

A defendant in Alabama's gambling corruption trial is found dead, former Governor Don Siegelman appeals his corruption conviction and Congressman Spencer Bachus releases ads; 5:00.

Local Government with John Archibald

2012-02-02; 6:33, 8:33

John previews the 2012 legislative session and controversial comments by one lawmaker who says teachers shouldn't get a pay raise, but legislators definitely needed one to keep them free from corruption.; 6:00.

Capitol Journal Update

2012-02-03; 6:33, 8:33, 16:45

A preview of the 2012 Alabama legislative session; 5:00.

Legislature Considers Immigration Law Tweaks

2012-02-07; 6:33, 8:33, 16:45

The Alabama Legislature begins its regular session today and one of the big issues lawmakers will consider is changing the state's immigration law. That law, HB56, is considered the nation's toughest crackdown on illegal immigrants. When it passed last year it got very little attention from Alabama's business community, but as WBHM's Tanya Ott reports, business leaders are driving the latest efforts to modify the law. ; 3:30.

Local Government with Kyle Whitmire

2012-02-08; 16:45, 18:45

Arguments over Jefferson County's sewer revenues, a bill to change buying car tags in Jefferson County and a candidate drops out of the Republican primary race for the 6th Congressional District; 5:00.

Alabama's Prison Problem

2012-02-09; 5:35, 7:35, 16:45

Alabama faces a potential \$400 million shortfall in the general fund budget this year. And that could leave the state's already-strapped prison system at a tipping point -- so overcrowded Alabama could face the possibility of a federal lawsuit. As WBHM's Andrew Yeager reports lawmakers are searching for ways to fix a system bursting at the seams.; 4:14.

Local Government with John Archibald

2012-02-09; 6:33, 8:33

John's take on the first week of the 2012 legislative session. There's already a standoff over the budget and charter schools.; 6:00.

Capitol Journal Update

2012-02-10; 6:33, 8:33, 16:45

Budget Battles, Immigration Changes and Economic Development Bills; 5:00.

Local Government with Kyle Whitmire

2012-02-15; 16:45, 18:45

Polling in Alabama's 6th Congressional District Republican Primary and a proposed smoking ban in Birmingham; 5:00.

Local Government with John Archibald

2012-02-16; 6:33, 8:33

Details on an emergency bankruptcy hearing, looming Jefferson County layoffs, a proposal to term limit the Birmingham mayor and a packed room at a public hearing on a smoking ban.; 6:00.

Capitol Journal Update

2012-02-17; 6:33, 8:33, 16:45

Immigration Rally, Occupational Tax and Saggy Pants; 5:00.

Local Government with Kyle Whitmire

2012-02-22; 16:45, 18:45

Lack of transparency in the Jefferson County budget, and how Jefferson County ended up deciding to lay off tax collectors to save money, but lost money in the process; 5:00.

Local Government with John Archibald

2012-02-23; 6:33, 8:33

Analysis of how proposed 25% state budget cuts would affect local health care and law enforcement and how Jefferson County ended up deciding to lay off tax collectors to save money, but lost money in the process.; 6:00.

Capitol Journal Update

2012-02-24; 6:33, 8:33, 16:45

Cuts for the Department of Mental Health, consolidation of state agencies, and the shortfall in the General Fund; 5:00.

Local Government with Kyle Whitmire

2012-02-29; 16:45, 18:45

Treason from within from Jefferson County Commission President David Carrington and another shakeup in the Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority; 5:00.

Local Government with John Archibald

2012-03-01; 6:33, 8:33

John explains why Jefferson County Commission president David Carrington has called for some county employees to undergo lie detectors tests after someone leaked an embarrassing internal memo to the Birmingham News.; 6:00.

Capitol Journal Update

2012-03-02; 6:35, 8:35, 16:45

What's at stake for the Department of Human Services? Some legislators take a pay raise, and what's really going on behind the scenes with committees and voice votes?; 5:00.

Local Government with Kyle Whitmire

2012-03-07; 16:45, 18:45

The future of gambling in Alabama in the wake of the acquittal of Milton McGregor and five others in Alabama's gambling corruption trial, and an independent report is highly critical of Jefferson County's finances; 5:00.

Local Government with John Archibald

2012-03-08; 6:33, 8:33

John explains why, despite yesterday's acquittals, the gambling corruption case may not be over. Also, hist takes on the Birmingham Water Works board members for spending \$70,000 on travel last year.; 6:00.

Capitol Journal Update

2012-03-09; 6:33, 8:33, 16:45

Are Democrats being treated fairly when it comes to debating legislation? An update on the Right to Know and See Act and a bill allowing incentives for the film industry; 5:00.

Local Government with Kyle Whitmire

2012-03-14; 16:45, 18:45

Post election analysis regarding U.S. Rep. Spencer Bachus and Roy Moore as well as what's behind Milton McGregor's full-page ad in last Sunday's Birmingham News; 5:00.

Local Government with John Archibald

2012-03-15; 6:33, 8:33

John dissects this week's primary election and what it might mean for the future of the Democratic party in Alabama.; 6:00.

Capitol Journal Update

2012-03-16; 6:33, 8:33, 16:45

Is it a given that charter schools will come to Alabama? Also, an update on where things stand with the state budget, and re-evaluating cuts to mental health services; 5:00.

Local Government with Kyle Whitmire

2012-03-21; 16:45, 18:45

Cooper Green Mercy Hospital is behind on the bills, Jefferson County looks to reopen a satellite courthouse and Graysville's mayor under fire; 5:00.

Local Government with John Archibald

2012-03-22; 6:33, 8:33

John discusses Cooper-Green Mercy Hospital's financial troubles, the opening of a satellite court house in Center Point, and small town politics in Graysville.; 6:00.

Capitol Journal Update

2012-03-23; 6:33, 8:33, 16:45

Legislators look to curb a controversial pay raise, changes could be on the way to the state's pension system and lawmakers hear from the public on charter schools; 5:00.

Local Government with Kyle Whitmire

2012-03-28; 16:45, 18:45

Jefferson County defaults on more than \$15 million in general obligation bonds and more information trickles out about Cooper Green Mercy Hospital's financial hole; 5:00.

John Archibald

2012-03-29; 6:33, 8:33

This week, members of the Birmingham City Council donned hooded sweatshirts in an act of solidarity with Trayvon Martin, the Florida teenager shot to death by a neighborhood watch volunteer. John Archibald says the incident points out real problems in our own backyard. ; 4:30.

Local Government with John Archibald

2012-03-29; 6:33, 8:33

Birmingham City Council's sends a public message about Trayvon Martin's death and John says the case points to serious problems in Birmingham.; 6:00.

Capitol Journal Update

2012-03-30; 6:33, 8:33, 16:45

With legislators on spring break, a look at the first half of the session and mysterious charter school robocalls; 5:00.