

2006
First Quarter

ISSUES & PROGRAMS
Report

KXLT-TV

**KXLT Television, Inc.
Rochester, MN**

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Listing of Problems and Needs

- 1. ECONOMIC & DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT/JOBS/TOURISM**
- 2. POLITICAL/GOVERNMENTAL**
- 3. HEALTH CARE DEVELOPMENTS**
- 4. EDUCATION**
- 5. CRIME PREVENTION & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**
- 6. ELDERLY/HANDICAPPED/MINORITY GROUPS/RACISM**
- 7. ENVIRONMENT**
- 8. YOUTH**
- 9. SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

TYPICAL AND ILLUSTRATIVE PROGRAMS IN RESPONSE TO ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

Local

Since **January 1, 2000**, KXLT Television, Inc. licensee of KXLT, has broadcast the following programming in response to the issues and programs need for this quarter.

*** FOX 47 News @ 9**

Locally produced

News @ 9 M-F, Sun 9p-9:35p

Latest information and periodic in-depth background stories, which air during the news. All appear in 9:00 pm news unless otherwise noted, with possible rebroadcast, in original or re-edited form, in subsequent reports.

<u>Problem/Need</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
Economic @ Downtown Development/Jobs/Tourism	10/11/05	Nearly 100 people in Rochester could be out of a job by next summer. Late this evening we've learned JDS Uniphase is closing down its Rochester branch by June 30. JDS U is a worldwide leader in optical technology, designing and manufacturing products for fiber optic communications. A company spokesperson told us that the company will consider relocating some of those employees. The spokesperson says the closure is in response to a "changing business model." JDS-U moved into the Rochester market about 5 years ago.
	10/14/05	Minnesota-based Mesaba Airlines is following Northwest Airlines into bankruptcy court. But the regional carrier says it will continue flying as it tries to fix its financial problems. Mesaba flies under the Northwest Airlink name, and became a victim of its partner's Chapter 11 filing. Mesaba officials say cash shortages were the main reasons for the bankruptcy decision.
	10/24/05	Chamber members gather to say Goodbye to their leader. Freeborn County-Albert Lea Chamber of Commerce director Marjory Hamersly is retiring on Friday. She was congratulated and thanked by dozens of well wishers at her retirement party in the Chamber boardroom. Hamersly had the

11/2/05

position for 3 years before announcing her retirement earlier this year. She has been replaced by Susie Petersen, a long time member of the areas business community.

It's an enormous project for any city in the state, let alone Lake City and its population of about 5,000. The Jewel Golf Community expects to double the town's size, but things have been moving a little slower than the owners would like. Things got off to an interesting start when the Mayor announced the city had received a legal complaint that the Jewel intended to file against Lake City tomorrow. The major issue at hand: putting aspects of this major project on hold. The Oak Hurts Development will be built around the Jewel Golf Course and includes more than 1,000 acres of land. As we come to the end of the construction season, the Jewel says there are some items that have been in the works, and approval is needed to free up thousands of dollars of credit. Well, the council denied one of those projects at its last meeting, hence the pressure of legal action. The city attorney says the issue involves miscommunication and just the sheer challenge of the small city staff managing such a large project.

11/10/05

It's not even Thanksgiving, but department stores are already thinking about the upcoming holiday season. Store managers are hiring scores of seasonal workers, to help make the shopping experience more bearable for you, the consumer. A lot of seasonal workers are just out to make an extra buck or two so they themselves can afford gifts. For others, it's an interview for perhaps a long term job. Managers we talked to say the hiring season is up for grabs until the end of the month. So, people are heading to department stores to find jobs. The busiest time for most business is from now until the beginning of next year, so the masses of additional help is just what the managers need.

11/13/05

It's not often you turn 150 years old, so Albert Lea is turning out all the stops in celebration. The sesquicentennial birthday bash began with a kick off party at Skyline mall. Originating in 1856 Albert Lea will turn 150 on New Years Eve which will begin a year of celebration. Each month next year a different aspect of the community will be celebrated.

11/16/05

It won't be long before residents begin to see some changes in downtown Austin. The downtown revitalization committee and representatives from H-G-A consulting will meet with the city council to share some of their ideas.

11/23/05

The Chamber of Commerce is working to support the hotels and restaurants in Rochester. Hospitality is the second largest employer in the city. The Chamber's effort is called "Hospitality First" and a task force is

12/1/05

working on increasing awareness, strengthening the industry, and education for those who work within it.

The opening of Diamond Joe casino will create 400 new jobs, and all of them are still up for grabs. The Iowa casino opened its employment center about one month ago in the basement of Northwoods State Bank. Applications are being accepted for all positions in the areas of gaming, security, food and beverage service, and accounting. Employees say they have accepted more than 1000 applications but have not officially filled any positions. A second round of interviews will take place in January but the casino's general manager says he plans on accepting applications right up to the grand opening in early April.

12/3/05

Santa and Mrs. Claus are spreading their cheer in downtown Rochester. The festive couple arrived at the Peace Plaza this afternoon with a familiar "Ho, Ho, Ho!" The scene included Christmas carols, hot chocolate, and free carriage rides through the downtown streets. But the big event was a chance to meet Santa. Kids waited in line and bundled up in the chilly weather for a chance to shake Jolly St Nick's hand. The event was put on by the Rochester Downtown Business Association.

12/16/05

Everything may be bigger in Texas, but if you want to get to Dallas, you'll have to make a stopover. It's only been 7 months since its ribbon cutting ceremony, but a federal rule means Rochester is already losing its flight to Dallas/Fort Worth. The developments come after Southwest Airlines challenged a rule called the Wright Amendment, which limits the number of destinations its plans can fly to and from Dallas/Fort Worth. An American Airlines spokesperson tells us the daily Dallas flight out of Rochester will end March 2nd.

12/25/05

It's a day most business shut down, but one has their biggest day of the year. While most of the city remained quiet, Chatcau Theater in Rochester was abuzz with activity. Long lines and a packed parking lot were a welcome site for general manager Mitch Stevenson who says Christmas day is one of their most profitable.

12/27/05

An ethanol plant may be on the way in Mower County. But first, county board members must decide if the company's demands are fair. The city of Lyle is one of the finalists, so a county board members see that as a positive thing. But the final decision may very well come down to what the people in the area want. At today's meeting, board members passed a resolution to continue looking at bringing the absolute energy plant to northwest Lyle.

12/29/05

It's a 150th birthday that one group is celebrating 150 times. The Spruce Up Austin Group is commemorating 150 years by planting 150 trees. All of the trees will be planted on public property. Local nurseries, Austin utilities, and park and rec are all contributing to the project. Spruce Up Austin is also encouraging residents to plant sesquicentennial trees on their own property.

Political/Governmental

Should it be extended? That's the election question in Rochester. The city is asking residents to approve another half-cent sales tax during the special October referendum. City leaders predicted low voter turnout mostly because of this unique October time frame. Rochester officials says they've done their best to educate the public about the sales tax, but it's tough to get people out to vote for a single-issue election. A "yes" vote would extend the sales tax until 2014 and is expected to bring in \$40 million. \$32 million of that money would fund transportation projections, and another eight would support education facilities.

10/10/05

Residents of the Elgin Millville and Plainview school districts will go to the polls later this year to vote yes or no to consolidation. The schools argue that enrollment is shrinking and they won't be able to handle the economic repercussions.

10/15/05

Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty has pulled the plug on a special legislative session. Pawlenty blames his decision on DFL Lawmakers saying he couldn't count on support from them to focus on the stadium issues in a special session.

But DFL Senate Majority Leader, Dean Johnson, says the governor didn't get much support from his own Republican Party. Last week a prominent Republican lawmaker urged the Governor not to call a special session because most house Republicans are opposed to a fall special session to deal with sports stadium bills.

10/26/05

House minority leader Matt Entenza is announcing his candidacy across the state today to be Minnesota's next Attorney General. Entenza is a former deputy attorney general and also a prosecutor in Hennepin County and says he wants to focus on Telemarketers and helping local counties fight meth.

So far Republican Jeff Johnson is the only other person running for the position. Present Attorney General, Mike Hatch, is running for governor.

11/3/05

State leaders, led by Governor Pawlenty laid out detailed plans about how Minnesota will deal with a potential bird flu pandemic. One

11/18/05

of the goals is to vaccinate the entire state within a week if an outbreak happens.

The worst case scenario would include the closing of schools, mass vaccination, and quarantines if the flu were to come our way. Pawlenty said the state needs to walk a fine

line between informing people and alarming them.

11/20/05

Some possible legislative changes for lawful gambling may impact charities some time down the road. Lawful gambling has raised more than a billion dollars for charities across the state. State lawmakers are looking at a state run casino and a smoking ban, some feel this will impact the charitable gambling industry.

The Democratic leader of the Iowa Senate says the legislature may look at options for controlling sex offender during the next session. The senate is interested in looking at requiring electronic monitoring that tracks where an offender is at every moment.

Currently, Iowa has a two-thousand foot limit rule that keeps offenders from living near schools and day care centers. The Iowa Civil Liberties Union is challenging that law, in what could become the first US Supreme Court test of sex offenders' residency laws.

12/7/05

A political opponent is pulling out a major player. A former state representative brings in a heavy hitter to make an announcement about her political future. Carla Nelson is running to try to reclaim her seat in the Minnesota house of representatives, the seat Tina Lieblich now holds. Nelson held the 30-A-house seat in 2003 and 2004 as a Republican, and will now run head-to-head against Lieblich.

12/10/05

One group say unions in the work force is an important step to improving lives. In conjunction with human right's days the Southeast Central Labor Council and community members talked about the right to organize unions. The discussion centered on the biggest challenges workers face when trying to attempt to form them. Workers themselves talked about their experiences and explained how unions build strong societies.

12/15/05

They provide a variety of services to our community, from shelter, to food, to healthcare. But their job has been getting tough. About 55 area non-profit organizations spent half the day speaking with legislators about a variety of concerns. One of the, funding cuts from the state. The goal of the forum is to have lawmakers go back to St. Paul with an understanding of what non profits need, and participants say they do understand legislators have a lot to

		do. The forum was organized by the Rochester Area Foundation.
	12/21/05	A judge's decision to strike down Minnesota's tobacco fee does not mean smokers will see a price drop anytime soon, or ever for that matter. Governor Tim Pawlenty is trying to get the state supreme court to quickly review the judge's decision in hopes of overturning it. Meanwhile the uncertainty is of concern to lawmakers. The judge ruled in favor of the tobacco companies because he says it violates a tobacco settlement from 1998. The settlement is supposed to take care of any health related costs.
	12/28/05	Flood assistance is available for Austin residents but if they don't spend it soon the state will take it back. Last summer the Austin Housing and Redevelopment authority received \$100,000 from the state to be used by owners of flood damaged property. Of that 100,000, 87,000 is still available, but if the money is not used by next fall, the state will take it back. The money is in the form of matching forgivable loans, meaning it would supplement a regular HRA loan but would not need to be paid back if the borrower owns the property for 10 years.
Health Care Developments	10/6/05	Avian flu, or bird flu, will have devastating effects if and when it hits the area. Area health officials are pre-warning people to do their part to fight what would be a pandemic.
		The Avian flu virus has already infected and killed tens of millions of birds in the last eight years. It has also killed at least sixty-four people since the outbreak hit Asia two years ago. It's not clear when an outbreak could happen in the US, but health officials say are expecting it to happen and are already preparing.
	10/13/05	Health officials say three more cases of polio have been confirmed in a Minnesota Amish community. Immunizations are less common in these communities because of religious beliefs.
		Minnesota health officials say these three cases weren't contracted naturally. They believe the children got the virus from someone that was given a live vaccine, no longer used in the US. Although the risk is low, health officials are urging people who haven't had a polio vaccine to get one now.
	10/31/05	Olmsted County public health officials say they've had more than one thousand people come in and get their shot since they started offering them a week ago. That's a major contrast to last year during the vaccine shortages.
	11/3/05	State leaders, led by Governor Pawlenty laid

out detailed plans about how Minnesota will deal with a potential bird flu pandemic. One of the goals is to vaccinate the entire state within a week if an outbreak happens.

The worst case scenario would include the closing of schools, mass vaccination, and quarantines if the flu were to come our way. Pawlenty said the state needs to walk a fine line between informing people and alarming them.

11/4/05

People concerned about being HIV positive may have a more private way to get some answers in the future. The Food and Drug Administration is considering making a quick response oral test available over the counter.

The test has had some promising results with studies showing it is more than 99% accurate. Area health professionals say there is a risk of misdiagnosis with false negatives and false positives.

11/9/05

Barrett's esophagus is the most dramatically increasing cancer out there and has a very low survival rate. The good news is recently published research shows a non-surgical treatment used to kill cancer cells is also successful in preventing their development.

11/11/05

A nationwide shortage of pharmacists has those in the field concerned about the future. To help with the shortage, pharmacies are using more automation and mail service pharmacies. The shortage will more likely affect rural pharmacies than pharmacies in bigger cities.

11/17/05

Health experts say one of the major results of smoking is lung cancer. It kills more Minnesotans every year than any other cancer.

Health experts say the survival rate is not good for many lung cancer patients because screening is not effective. By the time people are diagnosed, the cancer is usually in the later stages.

There are programs and new drugs to help smokers get healthy again. People interested in quitting should contact their doctor.

11/21/05

Minnesota Senator Norm Coleman brought in a panel of experts to Rochester to clarify some confusion with Medicare's new prescription drug benefit, "Part D".

The drug benefit is open to everyone on Medicare and each plan has a different monthly premium, coverage, and deductible.

11/29/05

A group of volunteers are reaching out to help foreigners with medical concerns. As part of a first ever "Health Fair" at Rochester's Hawthorne Education Center, health education providers have set up special booths to help answer questions about

Education

12/5/05

anything from breast cancer to healthy eating habits. Hundreds of adult literacy students and others are able to pick up important information about health. Translators and volunteers from various organizations are also answering questions.

Mayo Clinic dialysis services has opened a new regional center dedicated to serving patients in Southeastern Minnesota and Northern Iowa. Patients who need dialysis often have to travel long distances for treatment, a new center in Albert Lea will change that. A state of the art dialysis center is open for patients through an agreement with Mayo Health System. The facility includes 18 outpatient dialysis treatment stations. Mayo Clinic dialysis services also offers outpatient dialysis in Fairmont, Owatonna, Wabasha, Decorah, and LaCrosse.

12/11/05

Children who come to the Mayo Clinic for care will have a much more child-friendly environment to be in. South Dakota banker and businessman T. Denny Sanford gave Mayo \$15 million to build an outpatient pediatric center. Clinic leaders made the announcement this morning on the 16th floor of the Mayo building, where it will be located. The new center will house medical and surgical pediatric specialties and technology. The money will also support a professorship, a fellowship, and a research partnership between Mayo and the new Sanford Children's Hospital in Sioux Falls.

12/22/05

A dermatologist at Olmsted Medical Center says there are a few ways to avoid dry skin altogether. Doctor Peggy North says first of all, people should avoid showering daily. She recommends alternating days with a sponge bath. Along that line, she says people should avoid really hot showers because they tend to strip the skin's natural moisturizing oils. And using minimal soap is best. Doctor North also says when it comes to moisturizers, fragrant-free creams, not lotions, are best. She says creams provide better moisture.

10/5/05

Rochester firefighters are going to be teaching area fourth graders about fire safety. The students will be going through mock fire drills with non-toxic smoke and learn the importance of sprinkler systems in the home. The unit's first run with the kids is tomorrow afternoon at Gage Elementary.

10/16/05

Dozens of people in Rochester turned out for a parade of prayer to dispel religious myths and reinforce truths. The group toured a Mosque, a Catholic church, an Episcopal church, and a Synagogue.

The outcome was to help answer questions within the community about other people's beliefs and understand differences.

- 10/18/05 The Austin school district is saying thanks to the Hormel Foundation for donating hundreds of thousands of dollars over the past few years. Today the Foundation visited Ellis Middle School to view how their money is being spent.
- Most of the grant money this year is being spent for technology upgrades. Those upgrades included new computers and software.
- 10/19/05 Rochester teachers approved the 2005-2007 Rochester Education Association contract two weeks ago and now the contract has been approved by the school board.
- Highlights of the contract include a cost-of-living increase and new incentives for pursuing graduate work. The deal also calls for teachers hired after January first of the upcoming year to pay a portion of their health insurance premium. Current teachers would continue to pay nothing for single coverage.
- 10/22/05 Enrollment in Iowa's public schools has dropped for the ninth consecutive year. A preliminary report by the state education department shows that 60% of Iowa's public school districts saw a decline. A spokesperson says this year's drop is small compared to past years, so they consider it stable.
- 10/30/05 An excited group of students and parents were in attendance as administrators broke ground for a new school in Lyle today. The new school was a subject of debate for three years and four referendums. The goal is to move the students into the new school half way through the next year.
- 11/1/05 Michael Resnick, a University of Minnesota researcher on youth development was in Rochester speaking at the annual Faces Forum. The forum attempts to educate the community on issues dealing with the family.
- 11/7/05 Rochester Montessori School has a new location in northwest Rochester. The school had been located downtown, sharing space with Christ United Methodist church for twelve years. The facility is the only private non-denominational school in the city. A grand opening celebration is being planned for Saturday, December 10th.
- 11/22/05 A group of students from St. Charles belonging to a group called Leaders for Life have organized an activity involving the grim reaper. Students will be "killed" about every hour of the day in attempts to make a statement about living chemically free.

		Students will be pulled from class by the grim reaper and will reappear wearing black clothes and having white faces. The "dead" students will not be allowed to speak to other students.
	12/2/05	The voters have spoken, and now two school Districts covering three towns will be coming together as one. Residents in Plainview, Elgin and Millville gave overwhelming approval to a plan to consolidate their schools. In the final tally, more than 1800 votes said yes to the consolidation with about 600 others voting no. The proposal passed in each of the three towns. Consolidation won in a landslide in Plainview and yes voters were also in the majority in Elgin and Millville.
	12/6/05	College students are getting a little help paying their tuition bills, thanks to some scarves and gift baskets. It's the third annual scarves for scholars fundraiser for the University of Minnesota Rochester, and this year, as in the past, several community members are providing items for this Friday's big raffle. Coordinators say buy a ticket for yourself, or as a Christmas gift to honor a friend or loved one, and in so doing help a student go to college.
	12/9/05	Minnesota higher education could be getting a boost. The MNSCU board of trustees approved a request to the legislature of the \$31.5 million for 2006. The request will cover several areas in the 32-institution system, including a global initiative to develop exchange programs and training for aviation, automotive technology, home health care, and manufacturing, bioscience development to build on a skilled labor force, technology costs to boost security and student services, and more funding to cover the significant increase in fuel costs.
	12/12/05	The Stewartville teachers union and their district are inching close to a contract agreement. A state mediator is coming in Tuesday to try and help speed up negotiations that have been ongoing since late spring. The teachers say their salaries aren't competitive in comparison with other districts in our area. They are also concerned about benefits.
Crime Prevention & Domestic Violence	10/3/05	<p>A group of residents from Fillmore County remembered women who have died today in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness month. The program included planting a new tree in front of the courthouse to honor those women.</p> <p>Domestic Violence Awareness month is always in October. Women who are in abusive relationships can get help by contacting their county's victim or family services office.</p>

	10/8/05	The Mower County K 9 team of Tazer and sergeant Jeff Ellis achieved a near perfect score to place first at the National Certification last weekend. This is Tazer's fourth championship in a row. This years second place winners were from Wabasha County.
	10/17/05	<p>Crime Prevention Specialist, Darrel Hildebrant says his office has received numerous calls from concerned citizens about a telephone scam targeting the local area. If you receive a call you're urged not to talk to them but simply to hang up.</p> <p>A group calling itself the "National Verification Office" is calling people asking for social security and checking account numbers. In return, they give you an "800" number that is phony.</p>
	10/20/05	Complaints of vandalism and drug activity around Peace Plaza have surveillance cameras rolling again. There is a new office in the downtown Galleria Mall that allows police to keep surveillance of the downtown area every hour of the day and every day of the year. These cameras cost about two thousand dollars apiece and come right out of the taxpayers pockets.
	11/25/05	<p>The Rochester police department says there is an increase in thefts once it starts to get cold outside. Mainly because people are able to conceal merchandise in bulky clothes.</p> <p>If you are out shopping and see you spot a thief, local law enforcement encourages you to give a description to the nearest clerk. Do not try to handle it yourself because stores usually have their own procedures.</p>
	12/01/05	The Minneapolis-St. Paul international airport is testing a new passenger screening system next month. The program emphasizes more on how people act, than what they're carrying. Airport police say the unit is trained by former Israeli airport security experts in behavioral pattern recognition. The test period beings in January. Minneapolis is the second large US airport to test the new system. Boston's Logan International was the first.
	12/20/05	Changes need to be made in order to pass a school referendum in Kingsland. That's what a survey released by the district has found. The Kingsland superintendent says that although the majority of residents are willing to raise their own taxes, they aren't willing to raise them as much as the district wanted them to. Last month Kingsland voters rejected a \$16 million referendum to expand two of the schools and close a third.
Elderly/Handicapped/Minority Groups/Racism	10/2/05	The National Alliance of Mental Health hosted a spaghetti dinner to kick off Mental Health Week. The Olmsted County NAMI chapter is

	<p>Sponsoring events all week to go along with the national awareness week.</p> <p>Pete Feigal is featured as a guest speaker at the spaghetti dinner. Pete has battled depression for more than thirty years. He says the key to battling depression is to concentrate on something you love.</p>
10/9/05	<p>Usha Asirvathan has opened her home to the public for nine days. Those nine days are a celebration of the Hindu festival Navaratri.</p> <p>The nine day festival honors three female goddesses and is centered on the nine days it took the goddess for wisdom and education to win her battle with evil. It is known to celebrate femininity with statues, song, and food.</p>
10/12/05	<p>Many homebound people rely on Meals on Wheels for their dietary needs. Thanks to a generous trust from Carl and Irla Peterson, the program will receive an average of twenty-five thousand dollars a year. This money will go directly to reducing costs for people who receive the meals in their home.</p>
10/16/05	<p>Dozens of people in Rochester turned out for a parade of prayer to dispel religious myths and reinforce truths. The group toured a Mosque, a Catholic church, an Episcopal church, and a Synagogue.</p> <p>The outcome was to help answer questions within the community about other people's beliefs and understand differences.</p>
10/25/05	<p>Rosa Parks died of natural causes last night at the age of 92. Parks made history in 1955 when she refused to sit in the back of the bus after a long day at work. She was arrested after a white man demanded she move to the back and she didn't. She was a pioneer of the Civil Rights movement and is still an icon today.</p>
10/27/05	<p>The Common Good Retired and Senior Volunteer Program thanked area Volunteers at a luncheon today held at Willow Creek Golf Course.</p>
11/5/05	<p>Diversity Council facilitators led group discussions on the problems with racism in Rochester. People were able to discuss their own experiences and perspectives on race and religion. About one hundred people turned out for the event.</p>
11/6/05	<p>Rochester Area Disabled Athletics and Recreation held it's 12th Annual Bowl a-thon this afternoon. The event raises money for the non-profit organization that offers a wide variety of activities to Rochester's disabled community.</p>
11/24/05	<p>North Americans are not the only nationality to celebrate Thanksgiving. The Regal family of Rochester celebrate the day by inviting new</p>

Environment

11/30/05

comers and sampling Thanksgiving meal treats. They hold one big meal for families new to America and have a traditional dinner.

12/30/05

Home Instead Senior Care put trees inside the two Dunn Brothers Coffee Shops in Rochester. Names of seniors hang as ornaments, listing a gift he or she would like to receive. Most of the elderly have no family close by and are lonely during the holidays. Seniors can be sponsored by removing their name from the tree. The group hopes to give gifts to 115 people.

It's almost New Years, and law enforcement is bringing in extra patrol officers to help keep roads safe from drunk drivers. In Olmsted County, there will be seven more patrol officers on New Years than on any other typical day.

10/1/05

A family in Southeastern Minnesota has teamed up with Rochester Public Utilities to become more energy friendly.

The Bills family uses solar power for energy in their home. The panels cost about \$18,000 to install, but the family says it's well worth it. The panels have saved hundreds in bills so far and three tons of coal each year. They expect a full return from their investment in under sixteen years.

11/5/05

You can take your Halloween pumpkins to Olmsted County composting site or to any area Wal-Mart or Hy-Vee stores. Silver Lake Foods is also accepting pumpkins for compost.

11/8/05

The Minnesota Investment Fund has awarded a \$350,000 grant to Soy-Mor in Freeborn County to create more jobs producing a renewable energy source, biodiesel. A total of thirty-seven jobs will be added to the plant.

11/28/05

Agricultural experts launched a new soil survey web site today in Kasson. Dodge County is the first and only county in the state so far to offer online assessment 24/7.

Local, state, and federal money made the site a possibility. Other counties including Fillmore, Goodhue, and Wabasha are also planning a web site.

12/8/05

Sometimes we speak without thinking carefully about our word choice. That can sometimes hurt another's feelings. That's why a group of Mayo High School students are trying to stop hate speech now. Members of Rochester's diversity council were on hand following the performances throughout the day to answer any questions students had.

12/13/05

It's a homerun to area children whose physical limitations prevent them from taking part in the great American past time. City leaders announced today a new, handicap-accessible baseball diamond will be built in

		Rochester next spring, and the kids will be able to batter-up by the time summer comes around.
	12/19/05	Food, or warmth? The rising gas prices are impacting most of us, but it's especially difficult for low income families. At Channel-One food shelf in Rochester, 2800 families use their services. And with energy prices rising, many are forced to rethink how they'll pay for their food. So Channel-One is making a holiday push for those in need.
	12/26/05	Just as Christmas is wrapping up and Hanukah is underway, another holiday is set to begin today. The seven day Kwanzaa holiday, celebrates Africa-American culture. Nearly 13 million people celebrate the holiday that began back in 1966. A reference librarian says there are seven principles of Kwanzaa, which include unity, self-determination, collective work, and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith. The celebrations include candle lighting, discussions, and a New Years Eve feast.
Youth	10/5/05	Rochester firefighters are going to be teaching area fourth graders about fire safety. The students will be going through mock fire drills with non-toxic smoke and learn the importance of sprinkler systems in the home. The unit's first run with the kids is tomorrow afternoon at Gage Elementary.
	10/21/05	Members from the Rochester Area Builders and local Boy Scouts teamed up at Gamchavon Scout Reservation today to make some major improvements to the campground. Some improvements include clearing a trail to the canoe area and adding a handicap accessible ramp.
	11/1/05	Michael Resnick, a University of Minnesota researcher on youth development was in Rochester speaking at the annual Faces Forum. The forum attempts to educate the community on issues dealing with the family.
	11/14/05	Thousands of poverty-stricken children overseas will be receiving a special delivery this Christmas from Calvary Evangelical Church in Rochester. "Operation Christmas Child" is nationwide and collects shoeboxes filled with gifts for suffering children in 95 countries.
		Shoeboxes will be collected at the church and can be wrapped in decorative paper with the lids wrapped separately. Please include a five dollar check to help pay for overseas transportation.
	12/17/05	Bird watchers from around the area are counting their feathered friends. The chilling weather didn't stop these people from taking part in the Christmas bird count in Rochester. The national event was first

conducted Christmas day back in 1900. Today, 30 people split up into groups to cover a 15 mile radius. With binoculars ready, this group checked off species after species. In all, the observers came across more than 45 different birds in the area.

12/23/05

Minnesota truck drivers will get a three-week reprieve from Minnesota's biodiesel fuel requirement. For the past two months, the state has required soybean based fuel to be blended into all diesel sold in Minnesota. But the Minnesota trucking association says its members are reporting problems with clogged fuel filters. The group's president suspects the added biodiesel product is the problem. So state officials have temporarily suspended the requirement, giving biodiesel makers and distributors time to fix the problem.

12/18/05

Some Mayo High School students may not be able to feel their toes or fingers tonight, but it's all for a good reason. Members of student government spent 24 hours awake, outside Hyvcc Grocery store to raise money for the women's shelter and Dorothy Day House. Some students toughed out the cold temperatures for the entire time while others stopped by in shifts. This was just one part of the school's two week, give one for all, fundraising effort. Other events include a penny war and a taste of Mayo winter carnival.

12/31/05

A new state law requires teens to grab the wheel, not the phone. That's because people with a provisional license or a learning permit are "not" allowed to talk on the phone and drive, and this also includes hands free cell phones. State traffic safety officials say young and inexperienced drivers are singled out by the law because they are more prone to accidents than older drivers. And while traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for teenagers in Minnesota and the nation, a police lieutenant says those numbers are lower in Rochester.

Substance Abuse

10/28/05

Sara Henjy was a trouble-causing meth addict that has turned her life around. She's sharing her story with others in hopes of changing lives.

She had a great childhood, but experimented with drugs and alcohol in high school and resulted in trying meth for the first time. She spent the next few years in and out of treatment centers and the addiction resulted in a divorce and losing custody of her children. After sharing her story with A and E television and going through an intervention, she has remained clean.

She is now employed with the sheriff's department and educates others by sharing her story. Recently, she was in Austin to speak during regional training for adult educators.

11/15/05

Law enforcement across Southeast Minnesota have announced their "Take the Southeast By Storm" program. Forty-four sheriff's offices and police departments join forces with the State Patrol to educate traffic enforcement in high schools. Southeastern Minnesota sees more traffic fatalities in December than any other month.

The campaign stresses the danger of drinking and driving, the importance of buckling up, and promoting safe driving habits.

11/22/05

A group of students from St. Charles belonging to a group called Leaders for Life have organized an activity involving the grim reaper. Students will be "killed" about every hour of the day in attempts to make a statement about living chemically free. Students will be pulled from class by the grim reaper and will reappear wearing black clothes and having white faces. The "dead" students will not be allowed to speak to other students.

Network Programming

In addition to our locally produced programming specifically designed to respond to the issues and problems of our viewing area, network programs often cover issues relating to our local problems and needs.

*** FOX News Sunday**

FOX Network

Sunday 10am 60 min

Date: October 2

Guest and Topic: Rep. Tom Delay (Indictment)

Date: October 9

Guest and Topic: Raymond Kelly, NYC police commissioner (NY Subway threat), Justice Nathan Hecht (Miers Nomination), Sen. Lindsey Graham R-SC (Politics), Gary Bauer, President American Values (Miers Nomination)

Date: October 16

Guest and Topic: Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State (Iraq), Sen. Richard Durbin D-IL (Iraq, Miers)

Date: October 23

Guest and Topic: Abbe Lowell, Defense Attorney (CIA Leak Case), Sen. Sam Brownback R-KS (Miers Nomination), Sen. Patrick Leahy D-VT (Miers Nomination), Robert Ray (CIA Leak)

Date: October 30

Guest and Topic: Sen. Trent Lott (CIA Leak/Miers), Sen. Chris Dodd D-CT (CIA Leak/Miers), Bill Taylor Criminal (CIA Leak), Robert Ray (CIA Leak)

Date: November 6

Guest and Topic: Sen. John McCain R-AZ (Alito, CIA prisons), Sen. Charles Schumer D-NY (Alito), Mike Wallace (Between You and Me)

Date: November 13

Guest and Topic: Sen. Pat Roberts R-KS (Intell), Sen. Jay Rockefeller D-WV (Intell), Gov. Mike Huckabee R-AR (Politics), Gov. Bill Richardson D-NM (Politics)

Date: November 20

Guest and Topic: Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of State (Iraq), Sen. Joseph Biden D-DE (Iraq)

Date: November 27

Guest and Topic: Sen. Richard Lugar R-IN (Iraq), Sen. Carl Levin D-MI (Iraq),
Doug Shoen (Polls), Whit Ayres (Polls)

Date: December 4

Guest and Topic: Stephen Hadley, National Security Adviser (Iraq), Sen. Barbara Boxer D-CA
(Iraq)

Date: December 11

Guest and Topic: Sen. Bill Frist R-TN (Senate Agenda), Robert Martin (Tookie Williams),
Bianca Jagger (Tookie Williams)

Date: December 18

Guest and Topic: Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State (Iraq), Sen. Harry Reid D-NV (Senate
Business)

Date: December 25

Guest and Topic: Gen. Peter Pace (Troops in Iraq), Sen. David Vitter R-LA (Katrina Update),
Wynton Marsalis (Katrina Update)

Syndicated Programming

In addition to our locally produced need to respond to the issues and problems of our viewing area, syndicated programs often cover issues relating to our local problems and needs.

None this quarter

Short Form Programming

- Week of October 10th – March of Dimes “Chef’s Auction”

30-sec spot produced for this annual fundraiser that is held at the Kahler Grand Hotel November 8th. Spot produced with photos provided by March of Dimes, and Abekas information inviting people to take part.

- Week of October 31st – Hiawatha Homes “Festival of Trees”

30-sec spot produced using footage from last year with information telling the public about the event that is 11/23 – 11/27.

30-sec spot produced using footage from last year promoting the wine tasting event during the Festival of Trees that is Friday 11/25.

30-sec spot produced using footage from last year promoting the brunch event during the Festival of Trees that is Sunday 11/27.

- Week of November 14th – Salvation Army “Kettle Drive”

30-sec spot with Randy Brock promoting the kettle drive that goes from 11/17 – 12/24 and also asking people to volunteer to ring the bells at the kettles.

- Week of December 12th Diversity Council “Salute to George Thompson”

30-sec power point spot that was sent to us from the Diversity Council inviting people to the George Thompson retirement tribute on January 12th.