

WBGH-TV QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS REPORT **4th Quarter 2015**

WBGH-TV's programs, news reports and public services announcements provided significant treatment of the following issues that were important to the community in the 4th quarter of 2015:

Education
Politics
Health/Healthcare
Crime/Law Enforcement
Government (Local)
Economy
Community
Business

Programs: Programs providing the most significant treatment of the above-identified community issues:

Local:

Program	Day	Time
NewsChannel 34 at 6pm	Monday-Friday	6:00-6:30pm
NewsChannel 34 at 11pm	Monday-Friday	11:00-11:35pm
NC34 Daybreak Cut-in	M-F	7:25am, 7:56am, 8:08am, 10:26am

Sounds of the Season with the Binghamton Youth Symphony

30-minute Special

**12/20/15 12:30pm 12/24/15 11pm 12/25/15 6:00pm & 11:00pm 12/27/15 12:30pm
12/31/15 11:00pm**

Celebrate the holidays with the Binghamton Youth Symphony as they enter their 55th season. The symphony performs at various music festivals and promotes musical education in our area. This performance of The Binghamton Youth Symphony, was taped recently at West Middle School.

Orange Nation

**Thursdays 11:00pm
10/1/15-12/3/15**

SU fans are covered with this 30-minute show about Syracuse University athletics. Strong regional appeal in our market due to our proximity to Syracuse.

All of the above programming is locally produced news and entertainment programming presenting a mix of news, weather, and sports programming focusing on current issues and events.

National:

Program

Day

Time

EARLY TODAY

Monday through Friday

6:30 - 7:00AM ET

As the first broadcast of the day on the NBC Network, Early Today features a comprehensive look at overnight news, the day ahead, plus the latest weather from across the nation. Viewers can expect the latest headlines in world and national news, as well as regular segments on business, sports and entertainment.

TODAY

Monday through Friday

7:00 - 11:00AM ET

This live broadcast provides the latest in domestic and international news, weather reports, and interviews with newsmakers from the worlds of politics, business, media, entertainment and sports.

NBC NIGHTLY NEWS

Monday through Friday

6:30 - 7:00PM ET

NBC Nightly News provides reports and analysis of the day's most newsworthy national and international events. Regular features include the "Fleecing of America," an examination of government waste, "Making a Difference," profiles of remarkable individuals who help others, and "In Their Own Words," segments in which individuals talk about the day's news.

DATELINE

Sundays

7:00 - 8:00PM ET

An award-winning newsmagazine dedicated to investigative reporting, mysteries, and social justice. The news magazine's flexible format allows its principal anchor, Lester Holt, and the show's esteemed correspondents Chris Hansen, Hoda Kotb, Josh Mankiewicz, Keith Morrison and Dennis Murphy to offer viewers an array of stories that range from mysteries and breaking news, to hidden-camera investigations and documentaries.

MEET THE PRESS

Sundays

9:00 - 10:00AM ET

For over 60 years, Meet the Press has featured headline-making interviews with world-leaders and U.S. newsmakers. President John F. Kennedy once called Meet the Press the "fifty-first state." Since then, every man who has occupied the Oval Office has appeared on the program

WEEKEND TODAY

Saturday 7:00 - 9:00AM ET

Sunday 8:00 - 9:00AM ET

The weekend broadcasts continue the *Today* tradition of covering breaking news, interviewing newsmakers, reporting on a variety of popular-culture and human-interest stories, covering health and finance issues and presenting the latest weather reports

Syndicated:

The Dr. Oz Show

Monday thru Friday

4:00 - 5:00PM

The two-time Daytime Emmy Award-winning syndicated daily series "The Dr. Oz Show" is hosted by the two-time Emmy Award-winning Dr. Mehmet Oz, trusted health expert, best-selling author, and world-renowned cardiac surgeon. "The Dr. Oz Show" is an entertaining, high-octane, multi-topic hour offering equal parts life-saving information in an "embarrassment-free" zone and where nothing is off limits or out of bounds.

Education – topics covered under this issue include:

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 10/5/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 2:11

Detailed Description:

Governor Cuomo's common core task force has three months to get to work in reforming new york's education system. As newschannel 34's nick Perreault explains, some aren't wasting any time questioning who is and is not on this task force. New York school boards association Tim Kramer is one of 15 people that make up governor Cuomo's task force to overhaul the state's common core standards announced Monday. Assemblyman Steve McLaughlin and Assemblywoman Claudia tenner aren't happy to see some of the same people who had a hand in developing common core standards on this task force. Kremer says the experience will help. They'll have their work cut out for them; tackling the standards, curriculum guidance and resources, reducing the length of tests and parent involvement. All concerns raised to education commissioner Maryellen ilia this summer. What's missing, teacher evaluations. But New York's deputy director for council on school superintendents and Tim Kramer say standards are the starting point. McLaughlin says this is the time for the governor to respond to the anger around common core.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 10/7/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:01

Detailed Description:

Hundreds of area students put on hard hats to get hands-on experience in a career in construction. The Broome County Highway department held a construction career day this morning. Over 500 students from nearly 20 local school districts came out to learn more about construction jobs and types of equipment including bulldozers, back hoes and dump trucks. With guidance from workers, students were able to get behind the controls and operate heavy machinery. Johnson City senior Desja Rucker says operating the equipment gave her a good idea of what to expect in the field. In addition to learning about equipment, students also gained insight on job-site safety. The event was organized by a number of groups including the New York State D-O-T, Broome-Tioga Workforce and B-T BOCES. IBM-Endicott and BOCES also provided donations that made the event free for all area schools.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 10/27/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:18

Detailed Description:

A scholarship fund has been established at a Binghamton school to honor a former student who inspired others after suffering a tragic accident. The Sara Scholarship at Calvin Coolidge is named for Sara Norris who passed away earlier this year. Norris attended Coolidge and, during her junior year at Binghamton High School, was in a car accident that left her paralyzed from the neck down. After graduating from high school, Norris took a position as a volunteer teacher aide at Coolidge helping to instruct students on reading and math. The school's former principal, David Constantine, says Norris also taught the students to see beyond her disability. Each year, students in 5th grade will write essays about compassion, tolerance, perseverance, generosity and community spirit and one boy and one girl will be selected to receive a 200 dollar scholarship. The money comes from 62 hundred dollars raised this Summer at the Teddy Invitational charity golf tournament.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 11/18/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:04

Detailed Description:

The Southern Tier Homeless Coalition allowed residents to experience first-hand what it's like to live paycheck to paycheck. The organization held a poverty simulation event last night at Davis College. People were split into families and given money which had to be budgeted to pay for rent, utilities, food and other services. Decisions included where to put children when they're off from school and where to find extra money for unexpected expenses. Some families even ended up resorting to committing crimes to make ends meet. Event Coordinator Rebecca Rathmell says people should be more compassionate toward the needy. Many people were surprised at how frustrating it can be to have to choose between buying food and paying utilities. Rathmell says this was the first event of its kind held in our area. Last year, about 12 hundred people experienced homelessness in Broome County.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 11/23/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 2:39

Detailed Description:

For some time now, local leaders have looked for ways to convince students who come to Binghamton University to stay in the area after graduation. And, for the past few years, more and more students have chosen to stick around the Parlor City. Tonight, NewsChannel 34's Mike Tanzini introduces us to a young professional who left a job working for Disney Cruise Lines to return to her alma mater.

After graduating from Binghamton University in December 2014, Natalie Murphy was ready to pack her bags and head to the Sunshine state to begin her career working for Disney Cruise Lines. Little did she know, she'd soon find herself back in the Southern Tier. She was contacted about a job as a communications manager at BU. Murphy says she was faced with a tough decision, but she knew making an impact at one of SUNY's top institutions was the right move. Murphy works at the main campus in Vestal and here at the Downtown Center in Binghamton. She says walking around campus as an employee feels a little bit different than it did as a student. In addition to the growth on campus, Murphy says she loves exploring the vast variety of new eateries and shops around downtown Binghamton. When it's time to unwind, she's hiking, exploring and simply taking in the scenes of the Southern Tier. Murphy says it's hard to believe that she was in a hurry to leave. As BU pushes to increase its enrollment to 20 thousand by 20-20, students in the classroom today, could be one of Binghamton's emerging leaders of tomorrow. Natalie Murphy grew up in Buffalo and studied English and Rhetoric during her undergraduate years.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 11/24/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:46

Detailed Description:

Nearly 4 years and 3 months after their old school flooded, students from Binghamton's MacArthur Elementary are set to attend the new building. The move in will be done in 2 waves with grades 3 through 5 returning to the Southside on Monday. Pre-K through 2nd will arrive in the new year. The 129 thousand square foot building took 18 months to construct and is expected to come in about 3 million dollars under the 79 point 5 million that voters approved. FEMA is covering 75 percent of it, with the state picking up the rest with the exception of a small portion

of the cost of geothermal heating and solar panels. Principal Maria McIver is looking forward to an end to bussing the kids to 2 different schools across town. The school is set up with a large common area on higher ground near Vestal Avenue that houses the library, media center, cafeteria, music and art rooms and a combined gymnasium and auditorium. Then there are 3 separate classroom wings jutting out on pillars to protect the school from future flooding. Last night, students and their families got to tour the building .One significant difference with the new school is the large number of windows and natural light. Plus, architect Ashley McGraw incorporated a number of requests from students and teachers including a small stage for performances, a student cooking kitchen and lockers for 4th and 5th graders.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 11/26/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:11

Detailed Description:

Some state education leaders recently visited Binghamton to learn about an innovative and collaborative program to help students do better in school. Members of the New York State Learning Community on Expanding Learning through School-Community Partnerships visited a Promise Zone location at Binghamton High School. It witnessed the school's Dream after-school program in which Binghamton University students assist the students with homework and review for exams. On the day the educators visited, the kids were played a version of Jeopardy, with prizes, that focused on their Global Studies curriculum. New York State Promise Zones create environments that engage and support schoolchildren so they are prepared to learn. Broome County Promise Zone locations are a joint effort of B-U, Broome-Tioga BOCES, the Broome County Mental Health Department and various local school districts.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 11/30/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:08

Detailed Description:

A Binghamton High School graduate returned to the city recently to share with some students how he overcame a tough loss on the way toward achieving his dreams. 2005 graduate Ryan Connolly spoke to teenagers at the BOCES East Learning Center. A star baseball, football and hockey player in high school, Connolly went to Notre Dame on a baseball scholarship. However, despite all of his athletic success, Connolly was dealt a significant blow at age 15 when his father and mentor, Michael Connolly, died of lung cancer even though he had never smoked. Ryan says his passion for sports helped him through the loss of his father. He encourages the kids who are going through their own hard times to find a passion in their lives. Connolly is now assistant baseball coach at Virginia Tech. He and his mother Penny founded the Michael E Connolly Endowment for Lung Cancer Research which has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 12/24/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:28

Detailed Description:

A mentoring group for boys at Binghamton High School has created works of art with an important message. The Brotherz made 2 peace benches with mosaic designs that include the peace symbol. Brotherz provides peer support for boys at the high school who may need guidance in both their academic and social lives. They chose the peace

theme as a way to encourage others to seek alternatives to violence when resolving disputes. Junior Celso Green was asked by administrators to join as a role model to others. He says he's received help in return. The benches and mosaic materials were funded by City Council and a donation by John and Carol Stelmak in honor of their son Jonathan. John says it's a fitting tribute to his son who committed suicide last year. Local mosaic artist Emily Jablon guided the boys through the process. The goal is to eventually create 10 benches, so one can be placed outside of each of the district's school buildings.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm
Time: 6pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 12/28/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:24

College Democrats at Binghamton University are hoping a Utica-area Assemblyman runs for the congressional seat being vacated by Richard Hanna. The Dems at BU joined their counterparts at Colgate University in urging Democrat Anthony Brindisi to vie for the 22nd Congressional District in the U-S House of Representatives. Hanna, a Republican, announced last week that he would retire after 3 terms in office. Brindisi, like several others, is weighing the decision over the holidays. He says he'll speak with his family before deciding in the next few weeks. Brindisi believes that gridlock in Washington would be solved by electing more representatives who are willing to work together to achieve a common goal. Another Utica-area Democrat, Michael Arcuri, held the seat from 2007 through 2010 when he was defeated by Hanna.

Politics – topics covered under this issue include:

Program Title: NewsChannel 34 at 11pm
Time: 11pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 10/6/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:40

Across town, the Binghamton Noon Rotary was holding a forum of its own, this one between the candidates for Broome County Court Judge. Republican Kevin Dooley and Democrat Christian Root are vying for an open seat, one of 2 that oversee felony criminal cases in the county. Dooley stressed his 35 years of experience in the Broome County District Attorney's Office, the U-S Attorney's Office and as a special prosecutor of Saddam Hussein and other Iraqi leaders following the Iraq War. Dooley says he holds the record for prosecuting the most felony trials in Broome County history. He says that makes him especially qualified to work through the heavy case load in a fair and efficient manner. Root says he has a broad base of experience working as an attorney for the Department of Social Services, Tioga County and practicing in Family Court. He supports more diversionary forms of criminal justice such as Drug Court, Domestic Violence Court and Mental Health Treatment Court. Root says more needs to be done to rehabilitate criminals and put an end to the revolving door. The seat is currently held by Judge Martin Smith who is retiring at the end of the year.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm
Time: 11pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 10/13/2015
Duration of Segment: 2:02

With the election only 3 weeks away, there are more accusations in the 52nd District New York State Senate Race. Democrat Barbara Fiala has obtained dozens of State Police documents that reference Republican Fred Akshar assisting in an alleged domestic violence incident, while off-duty. In 2009, Akshar's girlfriend, and Broome County

Sheriff's Lieutenant, Kate Newcomb, assisted her nephew, Jeff Taylor, after he crashed his car into a telephone pole in Johnson City after he had allegedly been drinking.

According to the victim's testimony, Newcomb along with a man she knew as "Freddie," picked up Taylor and brought him to Newcomb's home where he was later interviewed by State Police. The victim also claims she was threatened by Newcomb to keep quiet. Fiala says this is yet another example of Akshar's unethical behavior. NewsChannel 34 spoke to Fred Akshar this afternoon. He says his focus remains on the important issues facing taxpayers including creating jobs and combating heroin. He says he won't engage in a back and forth conversation over issues that aren't relevant. The Republican says he's done nothing wrong. Fiala's campaign supplied NewsChannel 34 with the documents. Campaign members say it is unclear how the matter ended but don't believe Taylor was ever charged with a crime. Fiala says she's turning all of the information over to the Attorney General as well as the FBI. Log on to Binghamton Homepage dot com to watch both news conferences in their entirety.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 10/14/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:27

Detailed Description:

Congressman Richard Hanna and State Senate Candidate Fred Akshar are shedding light on the importance of STEM classroom initiatives. The 2 Republicans held a news conference this afternoon at a portion of the proposed site of the Binghamton University Pharmacy School on Corliss Street in Johnson City. Hanna discussed his STEM Education Opportunity bill which is a monetary incentive plan to help relieve student debt. Hanna says the pharmacy school will give local students an opportunity to find a great career here at home. One of Fred Akshar's campaign platforms is pushing for high-paying jobs in our area. Akshar says businesses should be partnering with B-U and SUNY Broome to help retain graduates. Akshar says those partnerships would give students a head start on their careers. Akshar also believes the Pharmacy school will be a catalyst for economic development in our area. The project is part of a proposal for the state's Regional Economic Development 500 million dollar prize.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 10/20/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 2:01

Detailed Description:

A forum featuring the candidates for the open 52nd District State Senate seat turned prickly today. Endwell Rotary hosted Democrat Barbara Fiala and Republican Fred Akshar during its weekly luncheon meeting at Brothers 2. During introductory remarks, Fiala stressed her more than 30 years of public service as well as accomplishments she made as Broome County Executive, including the renovation of the George Harvey Justice Building and the creation of the downtown Binghamton bus hub and Charles Street Business Park. Akshar says his 13 years fighting crime as a member of the Broome County Sheriff's Office gave him a first-hand view of the challenges facing our community. Fiala took exception to Akshar's assertions regarding a 33 percent property tax increase and 4 thousand job losses during her time as Executive. Fiala also accused Akshar of making an issue of her age by asserting that he would be a strong and energetic advocate for the district. Meanwhile, Akshar defended questions about how a self-proclaimed non-politician could so quickly amass an enormous campaign war chest. And he made a point to correct Fiala when she stated that Broome County lacks a detox program for heroin addicts. Akshar spoke of heroin and opioid abuse and the correlating increase in property crimes as a major issue facing the district. Fiala focused on poverty and the need for more jobs. You can watch the entire forum, including the candidates' thoughts on fracking, the SAFE Act and the Common Core, on our website, Binghamton Homepage dot com.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 12/3/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:06

Detailed Description:

Broome County Legislature Chairman Jerry Marinich will be stepping down to take a new position. BC Executive Debbie Preston says Marinich will take over the position of Emergency Services Director. Marinich worked for the Binghamton Fire Department for 30 years and was one of the first people trained as an EMT in 1978. He's been

serving on the Legislature since 2002 and was named Chairman in 2011. The Emergency services director works with EMS, fire, communications and disaster response. Marnich says he's missed working in the field since he retired. Ray Serowick has been filling in since June, after former director Brett Chellis took a communications job with the Department of Homeland Security. The Legislature still needs to vote on the approval of the appointment. Once the vote is complete, Marinich can begin the new position on January 1st.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 12/9/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:16

Detailed Description:

Now that fracking is banned for the time being in New York State, anti-fracking activists have turned their attention to the build-up in natural gas infrastructure in New York State. In particular, pipelines and the requisite compressor stations. A group calling itself Stop the New York Fracked Gas Pipeline gathered in Albany today to urge Governor Cuomo to prohibit the expansion of natural gas infrastructure. Fractivists claim that the systems leak large amounts of gas which in turn is a public health threat. They say the leaked gas can cause asthma, C-O-P-D, congestive heart failure and, in some cases, permanent cognitive delays. They want the Department of Health to conduct a health impact assessment of existing natural gas pipelines and compressor stations before approving any more permits. A spokesman for the New York Oil Producers Association says because renewable energy can't compete with natural gas and oil prices, its supporters are making phony health and safety claims about the gas and oil industry.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 12/21/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:12

Detailed Description:

Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo is calling on Governor Cuomo to provide more funding for programs aimed at keeping kids off drugs. Lupardo has sent a letter to the Governor to beef up funding for the Student Assistance Program. It offers counseling and student-initiated goal setting programs for at-risk youth. As many as 10 area schools took part in the program, but a cut in funding in 2009 forced 6 districts to drop out. Increased funding would be used to hire a program counselor for each school. Student Assistance Program Manager Jill Alford-Hamitt says the initiative has paved the way for student success. Lupardo also called on the Governor to fund a treatment program at Fairview Recovery Services. The Addictions Case Management program yielded results including increased functioning, longer periods of abstinence, less frequent relapses as well as increased sobriety in pregnant women. Funding was cut for that program in 2009 as well.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 12/23/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 3:00

Detailed Description:

In his 25 years on the bench, Broome County Court Judge Martin Smith has seen a lot of changes. Smith says he's seen an explosion in the number of felony criminal cases handled in his courtroom. Now, as he faces forced retirement at the age of 70, he reflects on a quarter century of jurisprudence.

There's compelling reasons for me to continue to go along with this. But, boy does it bother me. You, sir, are about as cold-blooded a killer as I've run into in 40 years. Over the years, Judge Smith has been known not to mince words. Born and raised in Binghamton, Smith got his law degree from Syracuse University in 1970 and began his career as a prosecutor with the Westchester and Broome County District Attorney's Offices. Then, after more than a decade in private practice, he was elected judge in 1990 and started hearing cases the following year. He says he's seen the number of serious crimes double since his time as an assistant DA. Currently, Broome County has 4 murder cases on its calendar. Smith attributes much of the rise to drugs with heroin being the latest scourge leading to property crimes, violence and the destruction of families. For court watchers, Smith is particularly known for

insisting that defendants receiving plea deals admit fully to their guilt. Smith presided over his last set of appearances last Thursday. He says he wouldn't be retiring if he didn't have to but he is looking forward to traveling and spending more time with his family. Smith says he'll miss the people he's worked with the most. Also retiring, Smith's secretary Kathy Bender who has been with him for 30 years, going back to his days in private practice. Smith says he may return to a local law firm, perhaps serving again as a trial lawyer. Longtime local prosecutor Kevin Dooley won the November election to replace Smith on January 1st.

Health / Healthcare – topics covered under this issue include:

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 10/26/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 2:13

Detailed Description:

The transformation of a former Catholic Church into a home for end-of-life patients is well underway. Mercy House of the Southern Tier will eventually offer a facility for the terminally ill inside what once was Saint Casimir's Church in Endicott. The former sanctuary is being converted into 10 bedrooms with 5 shared baths, a home-style kitchen and dining room, great room and small chapel. Mercy House President Anthony Paniccia says the construction is on schedule to be finished by the end of January with the first 2 residents moving in in February and full occupancy by April. Paniccia says distributors have donated flooring, carpeting and even pipes for the plumbing. Mercy House continues to raise money to fund the construction and operation of the facility. This Thursday, it will hold its second annual Gala of Taste. The evening brings together food from several local restaurants, tastings from regional wineries and local craft breweries and entertainment by a jazz trio. Plus, a silent auction, raffle board and 50-50. The Gala of Taste takes place from 5 to 8 P-M Thursday at the Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish Center in Endicott. Tickets are 75 dollars and are available at the Church of the Holy Family business office or at the door.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 11/11/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 2:30

Detailed Description:

Now, on to our series Preparing for the Elements. People are preparing to pay for heating costs as it gets colder in Greater Binghamton. NewsChannel 34's Mike Tanzini shows us one way to keep the heat inside of your home. If it seems like you just can't get the temperature up in your home, it may be time to consider adding insulation. Insulation Man Vice President David Currie says one tell-tale sign is if you get a lot of icicles on your roof. He says icicles are the product of warm air escaping the roof and melting snow which causes the water to freeze. Currie says if this continues, it can lead to tens of thousands of dollars in damage. Charity Bensley moved into her Airport Road home about 3 years ago. She found some unexpected surprises that convinced her to get some work done. Just a few weeks ago, Insulation Man installed both a cellulose form of insulation, which is mainly made up of ground up newspaper, and a spray foam version. Bensley says she's already felt a difference. The Bensley's are ready for their first Winter with the new insulation. In addition to relief from the cold, Currie says she will soon be finding relief in her checkbook. Bensley says her family has become closer than ever, now that they can spend time together in a nice warm living room, compared to having family members scamper to their respective rooms to seek warmth. The Bensleys can enjoy the heat that makes their house a home. Bensley says the insulation installation took only 2 days. Currie says the best time to start thinking about insulation is during the summer months.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 11/25/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:29

Detailed Description:

In recognition of the success of Binghamton's drug court, as well as the serious heroin epidemic occurring in our area, the adult treatment specialty court has received nearly 700 thousand dollars in federal grants. The grants from the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Justice were announced during a news conference at State Supreme Court yesterday. The Adult Drug Treatment Court works to divert eligible non-violent offenders from serving jail time to a program dubbed "Stop, Think, Change." Robert Mulvey is the Administrative Judge for the 6th Judicial District and William Pelella has been the drug court's presiding judge for the past 11 years. Mulvey says 85 percent of the cases currently handled in Binghamton's drug court are related to opioid abuse, especially heroin. Binghamton is one of only 10 such courts in the country to receive the grants. The money will be used primarily for training and some additional staff.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 12/14/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:00

Detailed Description:

One of 5 companies licensed to grow medical marijuana in New York State is preparing to make the drug available to patients out of a storefront in Johnson City. Vireo Health of New York will open one of its 4 dispensaries at the corner of Reynolds Road and Harry L Drive near the Oakdale Mall. Patients must have a valid prescription from a physician to treat one of 10 qualifying conditions in order to even enter the facility. Vireo Chief Medical Officer Stephen Dahmer says the dispensary will have 24 hour surveillance and nobody will be hanging out on the stoop. Vireo already operates 2 dispensaries in Minnesota. By law, it can open as early as January 5th, but Dahmer says it will be later than that before the J-C site is built out and the staff is hired and trained.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 12/17/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:22

Detailed Description:

Opponents of hydrofracking are warning the public about numerous accidents, spills and disasters that have taken place across the State. Walter Hang of Toxics Targeting held a news conference at the Broome County Library to present what he calls disturbing findings. He says there have been a number of fires, explosions, and ruptures as a result of natural gas, crude oil and petroleum pipeline infrastructure in New York. Hang also says toxic discharges have not been cleaned to state standards. As a result, Hang says hundreds of homes have been evacuated and eventually demolished. Toxics Targeting, an environmental database firm, released a 358-page summary for 114 incidents that have taken place. Hang says even the most reliable equipment used in the industry isn't foolproof. In addition to releasing the findings, Hang has also sent a letter to Governor Cuomo. It would request that all pending Water Quality Certification applications for new natural gas, petroleum and crude oil infrastructure projects be denied, including the proposed Constitution Pipeline.

Crime / Law Enforcement – topics covered under this issue include:

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 10/19/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:14

Detailed Description:

Johnson City police have arrested a man for setting a house fire that killed 2 young children this morning. 38 year-old Dwight Burton of JC was arrested and charged with 1st degree murder and arson. JC firefighters responded to an apartment building located at 145 Floral avenue this morning at around 1:45. Police say two 27-year old women and 2 children were trapped in an apartment on the 3rd floor. JC police were first on the scene and attempted to rescue the children. Police Chief Brent Dodge says the flames and smoke were too intense and officers could not rescue the

kids. They were pronounced dead at the scene. Dodge describes what officers saw when they arrived. The 2 women have been transferred to a burn treatment center and both are in critical condition. Dodge says Burton and one of the women used to be in a relationship and had a history of domestic issues. There's no word on how many others were displaced as a result of the fire.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm
Time: 6pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 12/2/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:16

Following a vicious assault, the City of Binghamton is sending a warning to a West Side nightclub to clean up its act. Binghamton Mayor Rich David says the Icehouse Bar, located at 16 Charlotte Street, has already acquired about 40 lockdown points as a result of fights and assaults. Last month, a 20-year old Binghamton University student was struck in the head with an unknown object and robbed. The attack left him in critical condition. The victim's family, Binghamton Police and an anonymous donor are pitching in 1 thousand dollars each for any information leading to an arrest. Rather than operating daily, the Ice House rents its venue for parties and events. Police Chief Joe Zikuski says it's concerning when a place that's only open periodically gets so much negative attention. Other Icehouse incidents include a robbery in 2005 and a stabbing in 2001. 2 other locations, the Antler Lodge on Chenango Street and the former Days Inn on Front Street have also received lockdown letters this year. Zikuski says both establishments have been working with the city to rectify the issues in hopes of avoiding a lockdown.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm
Time: 11pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 12/7/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:08

Following Mayor Rich David's executive order signed in August, Officers in the Binghamton Police Department will be soon be patrolling the city with body cameras. Over the past few months, officers have been training with the new equipment. Today, they demonstrated how the new cameras would work. The Tazer Axon cameras stay on for the entire shift and patrolmen can record by double-tapping a button. The camera will capture both audio and video 30 seconds prior to the officer hitting record. Binghamton patrolman Brad Kacynzski says the cameras will keep both officers and those they deal with in check. The Tazer Axon cameras are the same model used by the Broome County Sheriff's Office. Binghamton Police administered mock traffic stops with NewsChannel 34 today, seen here. Tomorrow, we'll show you the body camera footage.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm
Time: 11pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 12/15/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:24

Binghamton's Bravest will now have state-of-the-art equipment for fighting fires thanks to a new grant. The Binghamton Fire Department revealed nearly 322 thousand dollars in new equipment this afternoon at its training facility on Belden Street. Upgrades include 42 self-contained breathing apparatus, 84 air cylinders and 128 specialized face masks. The new equipment will increase air supply from 30 minutes to 45 minutes of operation. Mayor Rich David says the new equipment can help save lives. The National Fire Protection Association requires equipment to be replaced every 10 years. Binghamton Fire Chief Dan Thomas says the upgrades will allow firefighters to breathe easier during a blaze. Firefighters are currently training with the new equipment. Another vital resource is an alarm system that is triggered when a firefighter goes down inside a building. The alarm both notifies and sends a signal that's used to locate that person.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm
Time: 6pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 12/16/2015
Duration of Segment: 2:06

25 years, 2 months and 10 days. That's how long Tim Fleming served as a corrections officer in Broome County. When he called it quits at the end of last month, he became the first African-American to retire from the Sheriff's Department. It was a joyful reunion for Tim Fleming as he greeted many of his former co-workers in the officers mess today. Fleming says the C-O's form a tight bond. Fleming is sorely missed for the breakfasts he would prepare each morning. Fleming says he only realized in the last 5 years that he would mark the first African-American to retire from the department. He says diversity is a benefit. Harder and Fleming agree that a career in corrections is something more minorities should pursue. Fleming says he'll miss hanging out with his fellow COs. Fleming says he's taking it easy for now but hopes to find a part-time job to keep him active. For information on civil service exams, log onto Go Broome County dot com slash Personnel.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm
Time: 11pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 12/30/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:29

New York State Troopers are honoring a fallen officer by giving the gift of life. The 2nd annual Christopher Skinner memorial blood drive was held today at the State Police barracks in Kirkwood. Last year, Skinner was conducting a routine traffic stop on Interstate 81, when prosecutors say 60 year-old Almond Upton intentionally swerved into him and killed him. Officers reminisced about Skinner, specifically his love for his family and community. Major James Barnes says the event honors a fallen hero, while serving as a reminder of what can happen in the line of duty. According to the American Red Cross, 1 donation of blood can save up to 3 lives. Red Cross Account Manager Theresa Blank says many people don't realize the importance of giving blood until a loved one is in need. Blank says over 70 people donated blood last year. A second donation location was set up at SEFCU on Crescent Drive due to the limited space at the police station. Skinner served as a State Trooper for 13 years.

Government (Local) – topics covered under this issue include:

Program Title: NewsChannel 34 at 6pm
Time: 6pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 10/1/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:05

The City of Binghamton is continuing a partnership that brings fresh fruits and veggies to the less fortunate in our community. Mayor Rich David announced this morning that the City has reached an agreement with the Volunteers Improving Neighborhood Environments, or VINES organization. It signed a 5-year lease extension for the urban garden program. A number of blighted properties, including a location at 16 Tudor Street, were transformed into green spaces for growing peppers, kale, beans, tomatoes and other vegetables. Urban Farm Manager Sean Cummings says the extension means expansion. VINES started the initiative 6 years ago. People can sign up to receive a weekly share of the harvested food. There are currently 9 urban farms in the city including locations on Mathers, Liberty and Pine Streets. VINES also offers employment to young people during the summer.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm
Time: 11pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 10/23/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:04

A group of fed up New Yorkers are furthering their efforts to become a part of Pennsylvania. Yesterday, a group led by Documentary Filmmaker and Secession Activist Aaron Price, traveled to Harrisburg to talk with political staffers about making secession a reality. They met for an hour and discussed issues such as fracking, high crime and taxes, education and the SAFE Act. Price says the staffers will lead a study to see how feasible it would be for the Southern Tier to secede and join PA. Price says the staffers and the secession proponents are on the same page. Price says anyone who would like to help the cause or learn more about it can contact him on his website Gas Odyssey dot com. He has also written a secession pledge. To view the full pledge, log onto Binghamton Homepage dot com.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 11/2/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:42

Detailed Description:

Proponents and opponents of project labor agreements took to the streets to share their opinions on the matter this afternoon. A rally was held outside of Binghamton City Hall. A project labor agreement is a government awarded contract that negotiates with labor unions regarding employment and project costs. A P.L.A. has been proposed for the 200 million dollar overhaul of the Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Plant. Critics say it discriminates against hard working laborers that don't pay union dues. Brian Sampson is the President of Associated Builders and Contractors Empire State Chapter. He says the people being looked over have what it takes to get the job done. Just about 20 feet down the sidewalk, P.L.A. proponents gave their side of the story. International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers representative Tom Spicer says local people do get a fair opportunity to work. He says in past P.L.A. projects, there were plenty of non-union workers. Proponents also say that P.L.A.'s offer an opportunity to negotiate lower costs as part of the agreement. Tomorrow, Binghamton City Council will vote on the P-L-A proposal for the Sewage Treatment Plant. P.L.A.s were used when building both Turning Stone and Yellow Brick Road casinos.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 11/12/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:05

Detailed Description:

Governor Cuomo plans to raise the minimum wage for all state workers to 15 dollars an hour. Cuomo says the phased in approach would bring state government employees in New York City up to 15 by 2018 and statewide by 2021. It's estimated that the raises would cost New York about 21 million dollars a year. Earlier this week, activists rallied outside the Johnson City Walmart calling for the minimum wage to be raised to 15 dollars per hour for all workers in New York. Among those giving testimonials were nursing home employees and teachers aides who spoke of the difficulty in working low-wage jobs. Salka Valerio is a single mother with an associate's degree who earns a low wage caring for the mentally and physically handicapped. Cuomo has already convened a wage board that circumvented the state legislature in establishing a 15 dollar per hour minimum wage for chain fast food workers to be phased in by 2021.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 11/19/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:05

Detailed Description:

With the proposed closure of the Broome Developmental Center only a few months away, local Assembly members are calling on Governor Cuomo to guarantee services for the developmentally disabled. A bill has been sent to

Cuomo that would secure services for developmentally disabled people who utilize the BDC. The services would be offered in community homes after the closure. The state plans to keep only 2 developmental centers open that would house only 150 people throughout the entire state. Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo and Assemblyman Cliff Crouch have a number of concerns. Lupardo believes the BDC should remain open. Cuomo has until midnight on November 21st to either sign or veto the bill. The BDC currently houses about 50 residents and is slated to close around March of next year.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm
Time: 11pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 11/20/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:14

Broome County Executive Debbie Preston is outlining the 2016 county budget. The 366 million dollar budget comes with a 1 point 8 percent property tax levy increase. Highlights include improvements to Willow Point Nursing home, 2 new diesel busses for BC Transit and development of the Carnegie Library for the hospitality program for SUNY Broome. Perhaps the most controversial portion of the budget includes cutting the Central Foods department, which provides food for the jail, Willow Point, and Meals on Wheels. Philadelphia-based food provider Aramark will be taking over the service. Preston says the county will establish a quality control position to oversee the transition. Preston says the County will save about 1 point 6 million dollars per year by switching to Aramark. Another major highlight is the allocation of 3 point 6 million dollars to address addiction treatment and educational programs.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm
Time: 11pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 12/11/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:31

Local leaders and members of the Regional Economic Development Council are celebrating the Southern Tier's 500-million dollar victory. A reception was held at Binghamton University yesterday to discuss what went right. Donna Lupardo served on the Strategic Implementation Assessment Team, which reviewed each proposal. She says representatives from around the state were raving about synergy, forward thinking and having shovel ready sites. She says people were even seeking permits for proposed locations. Lupardo says the Southern Tier is making headlines, even on social media. Last December, people in our area were digesting the 2 major announcements of the ban on fracking and the lack of a true Southern Tier casino license. Broome County Executive Debbie Preston says this time around, our region refused to lose. The 8 county region will receive the half billion dollars over the next 5 years as a winner of the Upstate Revitalization Initiative. Its plan identified 76 projects it would fund with the first 100 million next year.

Economy – topics covered under this issue include:

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm
Time: 6pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 10/2/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:45

A local company is keeping up with the high demand of manufacturing products thanks to a nearly 50 thousand square foot expansion.

The Raymond Corporation, headquartered in Greene, held a ribbon cutting ceremony this morning. The company is an industry leader in electronic lift trucks, fork lifts and other material handling solutions.

The 47,000 square foot expansion includes a state of the art operations center. The improvements include adding a second story and a reconfiguration of the production floor. It also added a fitness center, showers and an expanded break area for workers. Raymond CEO Mike Field says the expansion has made the facility operate more efficiently. Raymond also held a manufacturing day for over 250 area students from 10 schools. They had an opportunity to get

hands on experience with laser cutters and robotic welding machines. Rick Harrington is the Senior Vice President of Operations. He says this generation of students and their familiarity with ever-changing technology will be the future of the industry. Harrington says employment has doubled in the last 6 years. It now has over 1,600 employees. Raymond is credited with creating the double-sided wooden pallet as well as the hydraulic hand pallet truck. It was founded in 1922 and has facilities in Iowa and Syracuse.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm
Time: 6pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 10/21/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:06

About 300 people responsible for making the roadways safer in New York State are in Binghamton this week to share best practices. Broome County District Attorney Jerry Mollen deliver welcoming remarks to the New York Highway Safety Annual Fall Symposium yesterday. The event is co-sponsored by the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, the Association of Traffic Safety Boards and the Stop-DWI Association. This year, much of the focus is on the growing problem of drugged driving, especially those under the influence of heroin or prescription drugs. Assistant Commissioner of the Traffic Safety Committee Chuck DeWeese says they use the 3 E approach to reducing crashes, injuries and fatalities: engineering, enforcement and education. The symposium included specialized training for law enforcement in identifying those under the influence of drugs.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm
Time: 6pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 11/3/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:07

Local farmers and agricultural specialists are learning ways to plant seeds in our local economy. A forum was hosted today at Binghamton University to discuss ways to help food, beverage and agricultural businesses grow. State officials, I-D-A representatives and financial institutions were on hand to provide a number of unique perspectives. Topics included ways to get loans and grants, advice on business plans, and the importance of knowing your customer base. Brian Aukema is a Cornell Cooperative Extension Educator. He says the farming industry is a critical piece of both our local and national economy. The forum was hosted by Empire State Development. Additional sponsors included The Binghamton Local Development Corporation and the City of Binghamton Economic Development office. Similar programs have been held on Long Island, in Herkimer and the Finger Lakes.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm
Time: 6pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 11/5/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:24

Following last week's announcement that it planned to close down the factory, Kraft-Heinz in Walton will keep its doors open and nobody will lose their job. Governor Cuomo and U-S Senator Chuck Schumer announced that a deal had been made to keep the cottage cheese and sour cream producing plant open for at least 5 years. If it were to close, over 140 people would be laid off. The company wanted to close the facility because it was outdated and inefficient. Schumer says instead of closing the doors, the factory will go through a series of upgrades with the help of New York State. Village of Walton Mayor Ed Snow says the community would be crushed if the Kraft-Heinz were to pack up and move. Snow says upgrades will include an anaerobic digest system. It converts dairy waste to bio gas, which will fuel not only the facility, but also the neighboring Walton schools. A bio gas pipeline will run from Kraft-Heinz to the schools. Currently, the waste has to be transported to Utica for disposal.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm
Time: 6pm
Detailed Description:

Date: 11/13/2015
Duration of Segment: 1:17

A local business owner is launching her first foray into commercial development with the creation of a state-of-the-art green mixed-use building in Johnson City. Oakdale Crossing is the name of the 5 million dollar 4 story structure that is scheduled to be built along Oakdale Road next year. Because the area flooded badly in 2011, the building will be constructed on pillars with parking underneath. Then there will be 2 floors of professional office space and a top floor housing 10 luxury apartments. The modern design will include many environmentally-friendly features including a living green roof to absorb rain and a rainwater harvesting system for water to flush toilets and irrigate the landscaping. Gina Curcio of Curcio Printing is President of Crux Properties. She says our area is ripe for this type of development. There will also be solar panels to provide electricity to the elevators and common areas. Construction is expected to begin in March and be completed by the end of next September. For information on leasing commercial or residential space, go to Crux Properties LLC dot com.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 11/27/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:32

Detailed Description:

Shoppers were out in full force last night to get the biggest bargains for Black Friday. At the Oakdale mall, shoppers told NewsChannel 34 there were many deals on iphones, fit bit bracelets, clothing, towels and other homecare needs. We spoke to one family that goes all out every year by wearing hats and costumes. They shop on Thursdays and have Thanksgiving dinner on Friday. This was Emily Moore's first year taking part in her family's unique festivity. She says the night of shopping didn't live up to all of the hype. Another shopper, Tyler Shimer of Montrose, says he's been Black Friday shopping for the past few years. He says since stores open sporadically on Thursday, the crowds aren't as bad as previous years. He says unless you know exactly what you're looking for, you're better off waiting until Friday. Stores were opening as soon as 5 pm on Thanksgiving Day. The Moore family says they expect to put in a solid 12 hours of shopping before heading to bed around 5. Tomorrow, consumers are encouraged to buy locally and take part in small business Saturday.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 12/10/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:15

Detailed Description:

A new affordable housing complex for seniors is under construction in Owego, built out of harm's way. A ground breaking ceremony was held today for Owego Gardens along Route 434 on the village's Southside. The 62 unit development is for residents 55 and older who meet certain income guidelines. The townhouse-style complex will feature a fitness center, raised garden beds, a community room, laundry room and views overlooking the Susquehanna River. Because it is meant to provide an alternative to seniors who were impacted by historic flooding in 2011, the project received funding from New York State Housing and Community Renewal. Nelson Leenhouts is the Chairman and CEO of Home Leasing which will operate Owego Gardens. Leenhouts says other affordable senior housing complexes that Home Leasing has opened in other parts of the state have seen heavy demand. He suggests interested parties get on a list by calling 585-287-5777. Owego Gardens is expected to open in early 2017.

Community – topics covered under this issue include:

Program Title: NewsChannel 34 at 6pm

Date: 10/8/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:09

Detailed Description:

A group devoted to the love of music is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year. The Harmony Club of Binghamton held a lunch and style show yesterday at Atrio Banquets in Endwell. The club, originally women only but now co-ed, was founded in October 1925 by Hannah Thomas for the enjoyment and promotion of music in our community. The group holds monthly meetings 9 months of the year that always include a musical performance.

Yesterday's event featured club members as models of both current fashions as well as dresses from the 1920's provided by Tri Cities Opera. Co-President Joan Engelhart says the membership includes professional and amateur musicians along with anyone who simply loves music. The quartet Fair Winds provided musical entertainment. The Harmony Club also offers scholarship awards to graduating high school seniors. For more information on the group, go to Harmony Club BGM dot org.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 10/12/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:27

Detailed Description:

The Columbus festivities continued on Court Street with the 56th annual Columbus Day Parade and Tournament of Bands. The parade, sponsored by Mirabito Energy Products, kicked off at 10 with the Knights of Columbus leading the way. Downtown Binghamton Barber John DiMenna was the grand marshal. Volunteers from the Saint Mary's Church, the Woman's Abruzzesse club and the men's and women's Sons of Italy lodges served up authentic Italian cuisine such as gnocchi, grilled pizza, lupini beans, and cannolis. St. Mary's Church Co-Chairperson Renee Cramer says the food encompasses what the Italian heritage is all about. Another major part of the event is the marching band competition. 10 teams from around the region, as well as teams from Mexico, New York and Bradford County P-A, displayed their musical skills for the judges. Deposit drummer David Michalski <MI-KALE-SKEE> says it's not just about winning and losing. Michalski says the team has been practicing its routine since the first day of the school year. After the parade, the Sons of Italy of Binghamton also held a meat lasagna dinner at its lodge on Carroll Street.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 10/16/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:09

Detailed Description:

Catholic Charities is once again making sure everyone in our area has enough food on the table to have a great Thanksgiving meal. The organization is handing out Thanksgiving baskets to the less fortunate in our community. Catholic Charities has extended the sign up times from 3 days to 3 weeks. Families can sign up for baskets through next Friday.

Baskets include a turkey, stuffing, fresh produce, cranberry sauce, and even fixings for a pumpkin pie. Division Director Sandra Ohlsen says she hopes to serve more families by extending the sign-ups. People living in Endicott and Vestal can sign up for baskets at Mother Teresa's pantry at Saint Ambrose Church located at 202 Garfield Avenue in Endicott. JC residents can sign up at either food pantry. People in Windsor can request a basket by calling the human development division at 273-8839. Everyone else can go to the Binghamton Food Pantry located at 100 Main Street.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 10/30/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:11

Detailed Description:

Another local couple is combining their love for Halloween with their love for each other by planning a Halloween wedding. Crystal Sackett of Binghamton will marry her fiancé Mike during a candlelight ceremony tomorrow evening at a local cemetery. Prior to the nuptials, they'll host a gathering of 34 of their closest friends and family, all in costume, for a gory dinner featuring food served out of a dead bride corpse. And after they tie the knot, all the guests will return to their Binghamton home for Ouija board, tarot cards and a séance. Sackett says the couple have been planning the event since last Halloween. The wedding ceremony will take place in an old cemetery in Deposit where Revolutionary War veterans are buried, and the entire wedding party will be dressed in vintage clothes reminiscent of the era. And the piece de resistance? The couple will ride to and from the ceremony in a hearse.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 11/4/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 3:08

Detailed Description:

NewsChannel 34's Mike Tanzini has been keeping busy as he's just completed his second season as a Southern Tier Football Official. Tonight, we bring you part one of our series Making the Call, as Mike talks about his role as a referee and shows us some of the tools of the trade.

You usually don't notice them until they make a big call. It takes thick skin to be a football referee and that's something I've learned as I work my way up the ranks as a Southern Tier Football Official. There's a lot to learn when it comes to rules, mechanics and unexpected situations. To help you understand a little more about what we do, I've decided to take to the field to teach you some basic techniques. We're down here at Ty Cobb Stadium, here at Union-Endicott high school, where I graduated in 2009. I'm going to show you some of the ins and outs of what a referee would carry during a football game. Here's the bean bag; we'll throw this on the field when there's a fumble to mark where the spot was, just to make sure we know where it was spotted when the ball came out. Here's the down indicator that I carry on my right hand. You just slide it down your fingers indicating which down. A whistle is a pretty standard feature that you see and hear a lot during a football game. The whistle doesn't really kill the play, the actions of the players kill the play. Another important part is the score card. We can keep track of who won the toss. The teams that are playing and when we flip the chains in between quarters, we write the down and distance. When you throw the flag, the job isn't done yet. You have to signal and correctly enforce the penalty. Whether you watch football in the stands on Friday or Saturday nights, here's a few signals you may see on a regular basis. If the offense moves first, before the ball is snapped, you'll have a false start.

If the defense jumps offsides, you'll see the hands on the hips for the encroachment signal.

Some more offensive and defensive penalties you'll see are holding and the block in the back.

The next time you're watching the football game from the stands, or in the comfort of your own home, pay attention to the guys and gals in black and white, and you might learn a thing or 2 about the game.

MTNC34 The Southern Tier Football Officials chapter is accepting interested referees.

Log on to S-T-F-O dot org and click on the contact tab..

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 11/6/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:18

Detailed Description:

There's a local effort underway to properly recognize some war heroes from a bygone era. Atomic Tom's on State Street in Binghamton is hosting a fundraiser tonight to erect an historic marker commemorating the accomplishments of the 137th New York Infantry during the Battle of Gettysburg. Colonel David Ireland led a regiment of men from Broome, Tioga and Tompkins Counties. They repelled a force 5 times their size in a pivotal skirmish that some historians believe was instrumental in the Union victory. The marker will be placed in Binghamton's Veterans Park along Conklin Avenue where Ireland trained his soldiers in what was known as Camp Susquehanna. Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo and local Civil War historians are organizing the effort. There's also a plan to rename a stretch of Route 434 in the city after the regiment. Tonight's event includes live music by the Stoutmen, Jeff Stachyra's Sultana Project and Dirt Farm, drink specials as well as brief presentations on the life of Colonel Ireland. It runs from 6 to 9 and donations will be collected.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 11/9/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 2:38

Detailed Description:

The Impact Project has been performing quality home improvement projects for the past 10 years at no cost to homeowners. Tonight, NewsChannel 34's Mike Tanzini tells us what it was like to team up with the group to give back to our community.

The Impact project was started by Jim Willard when he wanted to help a neighbor in need. He assembled over 100 volunteers to make life easier for a member of his community. Today, it's my turn to lend a hand. I thought the best way to tell this story was to actually work alongside the volunteers. The mission: Install a brand new heating unit and put a roof over the head of Greene resident Lisa Gerace, who lost her husband last year. It's hard enough to cope with the loss of a loved one, but it's even harder to push forward with a poor heating unit and a leaky roof. On this fateful day, the community came together to change her life. I'm no handy-man, but I rolled up my sleeves and did what I could to help. I assisted by stabilizing boards, assisting with landscaping duties and hauling lumber. It took all day, but we got the job done. Gerace was humbled and thankful for all of the work that we had completed. Despite the astounding number of lives already changed by the Impact Project, Willard says the group is just getting started. 10 years, 77 projects and over 2100 volunteers.... Those numbers are impressive. What's even more impressive is the amount of love, compassion and caring the impact project brings to the people that need it most. The Impact project will conduct another home makeover later this month in Smyrna. Volunteers will install items to make a woman's home more handicapped accessible. For more information on the organization, log on to TheImpactProjectGreene.Org.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 11/10/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:07

Detailed Description:

A World War 2 pilot, who was shot down over Europe, received his Prisoner of War Medal today. 93 year-old Ed Knowlden of Vestal was presented with the honor by Congressman Richard Hanna during a Veteran's Day assembly at Johnson City Middle School. Knowlden was a member of the Army Air Corps. His B-17 was shot down while returning from a bombing run to Berlin. The plane crashed just off the coast of Holland. Knowlden lost consciousness in the water and was fished out by German soldiers. He was the only member of the crew to survive. He then spent exactly one year in a German P.O.W. camp, from April 29th 1944 until he was liberated on April 29th, 1945. Knowlden says he wanted the medal so that his descendants would know of what he went through during the war.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 11/16/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 2:16

Detailed Description:

It's the time of year when families gather and prepare and share bountiful meals. Tonight, NewsChannel 34's Mike Tanzini tells us about one organization that's making sure everyone in our community has enough on their Thanksgiving table

When most people picture Thanksgiving, it's usually sitting around a large table with a full bounty surrounded by loved ones. For some people in our community, that's just not the case. Catholic Charities has stepped in to help bring relief to people struggling in our area. It operates a food pantry on Main Street in Binghamton. Division Director Sandra Ohlsen says it brings joy to her heart knowing she's making lives easier for people who have it so hard. While Catholic Charities provides assistance all throughout the year, they really ramp up their efforts around the holidays. The organization will help needy families have a traditional meal this Thanksgiving. Families can sign up for a basket containing all of the trimmings including a turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, and even fixings for a pumpkin pie. Ohlsen says the mission of the organization is to put smiles on the faces of people who've been dealt a tough hand. Although Catholic Charities does a lot to help people in our area, the community steps up to the plate around this time of year. Ohlsen says the people want to make sure their needy neighbors have a well-deserved harvest meal. The efforts of Catholic Charities have made a huge impact in our community. Without their help, 2,500 people could be going hungry for the holidays. Catholic Charities operates a second food pantry at Saint Ambrose Church on Garfield Street in Endicott.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 12/4/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:26

Detailed Description:

Preparations are already underway for an annual Christmas Day tradition that offers food and fellowship to those who need it. The Bandera Family Free Christmas Dinner is seeking volunteers and donations to support the meal that takes place at a variety of places in Greater Binghamton. Now in its 26th year, the dinner provides between 3 thousand and 35 hundred meals consisting of turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, stuffing, yams, soup, cookies and desserts. Bill Bandera, who took over running the event from his parents a few years ago, says there will always be a need for a place for people to gather on Christmas. The dinner has 2 main locations, the gym at the Boys and Girls Club of Western Broome and the original site, American Legion Post 80 on Main Street in Binghamton. Plus, the dinner delivers about 15 hundred meals to the homebound. And starting this year, it's added 2 senior apartment complexes, Woodburn Court and the Lincoln Senior Building to go along with 110 Chenango Street, where the dinner sets up a buffet in the building's community room. Volunteers are needed for preparation starting December 14th. To sign up, call 231-0706. You can send donations by check to Bandera Christmas, 49-55 Hawlett Hill Road, Marcellus, New York 13108.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 12/8/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:09

Detailed Description:

Some local folks are working to replicate a successful toy drive on behalf of children's hospitals. Mike and Kate Vavra of the Town of Chenango are collecting toys through the Lillie Kay Foundation.

It's named for a little girl who died 5 days after birth at a children's hospital in Nashville in 2009. The following year, as a way to honor her memory, her parents collected toys to give to the hospital on her birthday, December 14th. Since then, the Lillie Kay Foundation has expanded to other cities including Atlanta and Seattle. Mike Vavra, who is related to Lillie Kay's father, decided to start a collection for the Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse. The hospital has a room called Snowflake Central, filled with new, unwrapped toys for parents to select as holiday presents for their children. To help the cause, you can donate a new unwrapped toy at Pizzeria Uno's on the Vestal Parkway until Sunday. Vavra hopes to raise 500 toys to give to Golisano Children's Hospital next Monday.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 12/18/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:14

Detailed Description:

The Cider Mill Playhouse has received a new distinction that recognizes the theatre for its quality of performances and programs. The 250-seat cabaret-style playhouse has signed a contract with the Actors' Equity Association which is the professional union of actors and stage managers. It has been awarded level-5 status which means it can produce up to 5 shows per week. The recognition also means the Cider Mill can hire personnel affiliated with the union. Previously, it would have to request permission to hire someone in Actors' Equity. Executive Artistic Director Gail Belokur says the distinction will also attract theatre-goers from out of town. Starting September 2017, Young actors in our community can take part in mentoring and internship programs that can eventually lead to acceptance into the Association. The Playhouse is one of 400 theatres to be recognized throughout the country. It is the only Equity House theatre in Broome County.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 12/29/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:09

Detailed Description:

Christmas may have come and gone but the holidays are still in full swing at the Roberson Museum and Science Center. Home for the Holidays has been extended through January 10th which includes Orthodox Christmas on January 7th. In keeping with the 61 year-old tradition, the museum is decked out with hundreds of trees and vibrant

displays including community themed trees and the international forest. Marketing and Public Relations Manager Jason Fiume says many visitors came to Roberson during the warm December weather to help get themselves into the Christmas spirit. Another of Roberson's signature events, Masquerade at the Mansion, has already sold-out. In fact, the New Year's Eve party, which has sold out all 5 years of its existence, sold all of its 400 tickets within 2 days of them going on sale. For more information on Home for the Holidays and its schedule, go to Roberson dot org.

Business – topics covered under this issue include:

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 10/9/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:17

Detailed Description:

Eleven years after leaving for Montrose, Chocolates by Leopold is back in the Triple Cities. The specialty chocolate business has opened a store in Johnson City adjacent to the Ground Round and across from the Oakdale Mall. Master Confectioner and Chocolatier Leopold Schreiber has been making candy since he was 12 years old. He opened his first store on Court Street in 1994 and was a fixture in downtown for 10 years. Since then, he's been overseeing a candy-making operation in Montrose that continues to employ about 12 people. There they make all their own cremes, caramels, cherries, nougats, jellies and marshmallows. Schreiber says it's the very dark and the creamy milk chocolates that keep people coming back for more. In addition to classic old-fashioned treats, Schreiber likes to experiment with candies such as wine truffles, stout caramels and chile truffles. This weekend, the J-C store will have special samplings paired with coffee, wine and ale. Hours are 11 to 7 tomorrow, 11 to 4 Sunday.

Program Title: NewsChannel 34 at 6pm

Date: 10/15/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:10

Detailed Description:

Three local entrepreneurs have launched a new business network that promises to save consumers big money. The Loop was announced yesterday at The Center, the downtown Binghamton business incubator where the start-up is housed. Loop is an app-based consumer loyalty program that benefits users in three ways. First, users earn so-called Loop Money by spending money at Loop member businesses. Then, that Loop money is treated as cash when making purchases at other companies in the network. And finally, businesses can offer special discounts and sales to Loop consumers. The network includes exclusive representatives from a varieties of business-types including an auto dealer, a computer store, restaurant, bakery, even carpet store. Rathburn is joined by Rob Matthews and John Totolis in launching the new venture. Yesterday, it made a donation of over one-thousand dollars to the Danielle House representing 5 dollars for every member that's signed up so far. You can download the Loop app for free for either iPhones or Androids by going to Loop Rewards dot com.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 10/22/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:33

Detailed Description:

Lockheed Martin and the U-S Navy celebrated today the delivery of the first of 9 helicopters that have been sold to Denmark. The Royal Danish Air Force is purchasing the MH-60 Romeo helicopters to replace its current aging fleet. The hull of the Romeo is produced by partner Sikorsky while Lockheed workers in Owego install the high-tech systems and sensors within the cockpit. Lockheed officials say the MH-60 Romeo is the most advanced multi-mission maritime helicopter in the world. The Romeo is equipped with infrared radar and electromagnetic surveillance sensors that are integrated together to give the flight crew the most accurate information about the waters it's flying over. The Danish air force will use the choppers in the Baltic and North Seas around Denmark as

well as to patrol the waters around Greenland which is a Danish territory .All 9 Romeos should be delivered to Denmark by 2018. Previously, the Royal Australian Navy agreed to purchase 24 of the maritime helicopters.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 10/28/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:19

Detailed Description:

There's a new veterinary hospital in the Town of Chenango that provides all the routine care plus some less common forms of animal care. Fur and Feathers Veterinary Care held an open house yesterday at its location on Upper Front Street. It was opened in April by longtime veterinarians Diane Wittner and Leslie Personett. Between them, they have 64 years of experience caring for animals. Fur and Feathers serves dogs and cats plus birds, rabbits, ferrets and pocket pets such as gerbils, rats and sugar gliders. In addition to vaccinations, lab analysis, surgery and x-rays, the practice specializes in acupuncture, physical therapy and hospice care for your pets. Doctor Personett says they also strive to provide a calming atmosphere in part through the use of pheromones. Doctor Wittner says the one type of pet they don't treat is reptiles. Fur and Feathers is open Monday through Friday 8 to 5. For more information, go to Fur and Feathers Vet Care dot com.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 10/29/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 2:45

Detailed Description:

Most folks may think of Halloween as dressing up, scary stories and lots of candy, but for retailers, it's big business. Newschannel 34's Mike Tanzini tells us how stores in our area are generating ghoulish amounts of green during the Halloween season.

The days of ordinary hand-made costumes and decorations are over. The boom of trademarked and licensed merchandise and accessories have added new life to Halloween costumes. Spirit Halloween Store in Johnson City has taken advantage of popular trends. Assistant Ben Schmidt says people are gravitating to box office favorites. Another big seller is outdoor decor. While the kids crave candy, adults scour the stores for tricks and treats for their homes. It's evolved from pumpkins and bed-sheet ghosts, to fog machines, lighting and massive interactive displays that will scare your socks off. Brandon Camden is Executive Team Leader of Guest Experience for Target Stores. He says the parents play just as big a role in Halloween as their children. But what really is the potential for Halloween in terms of bringing in the big bucks? Camden says at the rate the holiday has grown over recent years, it may soon compare with the biggest retail holiday of them all. Despite Halloween occurring 1 day out of the year, manufacturers work year round to meet the needs of Halloweeners. Consumers are already thinking ahead for next year about decor that will one up the neighbor next door.

Spirit Halloween Store has eleven hundred locations across the US and Canada. Target even sells costumes for animals. Tomorrow, we'll take a look at how a local family is taking Halloween to the next level.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 6pm

Date: 12/1/2015

Time: 6pm

Duration of Segment: 1:05

Detailed Description:

An Albany-based law firm is another step closer to covering all of New York with the opening of a Greater Binghamton office. Tully Rinckey has opened a full-service law practice at 4100 Old Vestal Road in Vestal, headed up by former Broome County Family Court Judge Peter Charnetsky. The firm already has offices in Albany, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Washington D-C and San Diego handling family and matrimonial law, civil litigation, criminal defense, trust and estates and real estate law. Charnetsky says he was attracted by Tully Rinckey's ability to provide specialists in marketing, accounting and customer relations. Tully Rinckey also represents military law

clients. It touts a high-definition video conferencing system that allows it to consult with service members overseas. The firm is looking to add more attorneys to its Vestal branch. For more information go to 1888 Law 4 Life dot com.

Program Title: NewsChannel34 at 11pm

Date: 12/22/2015

Time: 11pm

Duration of Segment: 1:04

Detailed Description:

People were flocking to the Westside of Binghamton today for a new place to buy fried chicken. Large crowds gathered to wait as Popeye's officially opened at 162 Main Street causing some minor traffic jams on the street out front. Known for its special southern-style chicken, Popeye's also serves seafood and Louisiana inspired sides. This is the 25th Popeye's opened by the AR Group of Restaurants and the first in Greater Binghamton. Chief Operating Officer Sam Durrani says he knows Binghamton will love the taste of Popeye's. The restaurant will hire about 20 full time employees to go along with 45 part timers. The site was developed by Kradjian Properties and the business, like all Popeye's in the region, will be served by Willow Run Foods. Business hours are 10:30 am to 11:00 pm Monday through Thursday, and open to midnight on Friday and Saturday.

Public Service Announcements: In addition to the above programming WBGH-TV broadcast public service announcements related to the following issues:

Health - American Red Cross, Department of Health Stroke Prevention, Perinatal Network, MS Society, Autism, Department of Health and Human Services.

Consumer Safety – Futures Without Violence, Domestic Violence Prevention.

Community: Foundation for a Better Life, Music For the Mission, Making Home Affordable, United Way, Boy Scouts, New York State Broadcasters Association, National Association of Broadcasters, New York State Department of Health Flu Shot, Broome Chamber Wine Tasting, Lourdes Medical Mission, Food-A-Bago, NYS Gaming Gift Responsible, Marines Toys for Tots

National Security: Marine Corps, USO, Peace Corps, Air Force, Gary Sinise Foundation.

Environment: Habitat for Humanity, Emergency Preparedness.

These public service announcements were broadcast at various times throughout the day.

