

**TELEVISION STATION WSB-TV / ATLANTA
QUARTERLY LISTING OF LOCAL PROGRAMS REFLECTING CONCERNS
AND/OR NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY
APRIL 1, 2010 – JULY 31, 2010**

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(Mini-Series Documentaries are produced by WSB-TV's News Department and appear within the newscasts as a public service to the community. The Action News "mini-series" are aired one to four times daily Monday -Friday from 5am-7am; 12-1:00pm; 5-7pm; 11-11:35pm; 1:35-2:05am (repeat). On Saturdays, Action News is aired from 6-9am; 12-12:30pm; 6-6:30pm; and 11-11:35pm. Sundays: 7:30-11am; 12-12:30pm; 6-7pm; and 11-11:35pm. Segments are generally 1:00-6:00 minutes in length. The following, in date order, are the reports broadcast during second quarter, 2010)

QUARTERLY ISSUES / PROGRAMS LIST

- EDUCATION / YOUTH
 - HEALTHCARE
 - ECONOMY
 - IMMIGRATION
- TRAFFIC / TRANSPORTATION
- LAW ENFORCEMENT & CRIMINAL JUSTICE
 - POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
 - COMMUNITY/NEIGHBORHOODS

TEEN EVENT CONTROVERSY CLAYTON COUNTY

Date: 04/14/10 11pm duration :35 Monica Pearson

Police are putting out a warning tonight about a party targeting teenagers. Clayton County leaders say the same promoters who put out these flyers are planning a Freaknik type party, targeting high schoolers this weekend. But the county says the party does *not* have a permit and the Tara Center does *not* have a license to host the event. We talked to a woman who says she performed at a similar event from the same promoters. Charmaine Hopkins: "It was pretty bad, a couple of people got hurt, police, Clayton county was out there really heavy." Clayton County police are using the school system email list to warn parents about the party.

KKK LESSONS GWINNETT COUNTY

Date: 05/27/10 12pm duration :42 Fred Blankenship

The Gwinnett County school system is investigating a teacher, who allowed her students to dress in KKK robes. This is the second recent controversy involving students wearing Klan robes in north Georgia. In this case, the teacher is African-American. We're told Stephanie Hunte's eighth grade class at Sweetwater Middle School wore white klan-type robes during an historic reenactment. Sloan Roach: "They were wearing some kind of sheet or robe, but I've not been given a definite description of it, but there was definitely a sheet or robe involved." A school spokeswoman says the lesson was *not* part of approved curriculum. Hunte reported to the Department of Human Resources at Gwinnett County school headquarters yesterday, the last day of school.

PARENTS UPSET OVER ASSEMBLY SPEAKER - HENRY COUNTY

Date: 04/21/10 6pm duration :19 Justin Farmer

At issue here, a group of Henry County parents wanting to know, ahead of time, who would be talking to their children at assembly. After trying to reason with a principal for six weeks, parents reached out to us to share all of the email correspondence about T.I. - a convicted felon - talking to middle schoolers without parental notification.

IMMIGRATION KSU COBB

Date: 05/12/10 6pm duration :41 MONica Pearson

One group is calling for the ouster of Kennesaw State University Dan Papp for writing a letter to Federal officials on behalf of a student. She also happens to be an illegal immigrant. Immigration officials granted Jessica Colotl a one year stay to allow her to graduate. KSU officials confirmed to Channel 2 that Colotl was granted in-state tuition because she graduated from a Georgia high school. Phil Kent: "Papp should be fired because he has completely insulted every taxpayer and every parent in the state of Georgia who wants their child to attend the university and the slots are taken." KSU officials say now that Colotl has been identified as undocumented, she will have to pay out of state tuition.

IMMIGRATION KSU COBB

Date: 05/13/10 6am duration :49 Fred Blankenship

Developments in the controversy surrounding a KSU student who is not a legal citizen. We just received an email from the Cobb sheriff who filed a warrant for her arrest. Jessica Colotl is a senior at Kennesaw St University. Police say they caught her driving without a license and sent her to immigration detention. Now the sheriff says she gave them a false address while in custody. That's a felony charge. Some want KSU president Dan Papp fired because he wrote a letter to federal officials on Colotl's behalf. Phil Kent: "she's here illegally, she's taking slots from people who have played by the rules and have become legal residents or who are citizens, the rule of law has to be upheld." KSU says it granted Colotl in-state tuition because she graduated from a Georgia high school, but they will now charge her out of state tuition.

DEKALB AMBULANCE CONTRACT CONTROVERSY

Date: 06/02/10 11pm duration :25 John Pruitt

Tonight there are new developments in an ambulance controversy. Channel 2 has learned DeKalb County is terminating its contract with Care Ambulance, a contract that was supposed to run through next March. Now more than 100 ambulance company employees are scrambling to find another job. John Bachman has reaction from the company and the workers

Insurance Commissioner Opts Out of First Phase of Health Care Reform

Date: 04/13/10 12pm duration :35 Carol Sbarge

Some Georgia leaders are voicing concern over Insurance Commissioner John Oxendine's decision not to participate in the first phase of Federal healthcare reform. Oxendine: "Georgia should not have to jeopardize their taxpayer dollars to create this plan." Dubose Porter: "He's being irresponsible, just because he wants to take a shot at Washington, it ends up hurting a lot of Georgians and it's wrong." We should note – both Oxendine and Dubose Porter are running for Governor. Because Georgia is opting out, the Federal government wants it to create a temporary high risk pool for people who are uninsured due to pre-existing conditions.

Georgia Ranks 3rd in Nation in Childhood Obesity

Date: 04/28/10 5pm duration 1:14 Linda Stouffer

Dr. Seema Csukas loves to see children playing outside. "It's not just about exercise – it's just moving around." But she doesn't see enough. The medical director for Georgia Children's Health Alliance says 37% of children here are overweight or obese. This puts Georgia 3rd in the nation for childhood obesity. So a new comprehensive study is for the first time trying to get a snapshot of child health. The idea came from Children's Healthcare of Atlanta – where doctors are seeing a rise in diabetes, heart disease and high blood pressure - medical problems linked to being overweight. Dr. Csukas: "The concerning thing, it's happening with all ages even as young as 2 and 3 years olds, so were not just talking about adolescents who have a weight issue or a problem with obesity." The group finds less than one in five Georgia high school students gets the recommended fruits and vegetables; and less than half meet basic physical activity guidelines. The group hopes shocking statistics will lead to solutions, so Georgia's children can eventually grow up in better health.

Lawmakers Go After Synthetic Marijuana, Cite Serious Health Risks

Date: 05/24/10 5pm duration 1:14 Tom Regan

Synthetic pot – a potpourri like substance that mimics the euphoric experience of pot – but stronger and more dangerous – first took off with teens. But in recent months, three quarters of ER calls to the Georgia Poison Center are about adults. Since January, they've received 47 calls on patients suffering alarming side effects. Dr. Gaylord Lopez: "We are seeing everything from hearts that are beating fast, to perhaps tremor activity, seizure activity, and in some of the worst cases, they've gone unconscious into a coma." Such problems prompted Governor Perdue to sign House Bill 1309, which outlaws synthetic marijuana. Representative Jay Neal sponsored the legislation. Neal: "We have got to do whatever we can to keep this away from our kids, our young people and I appreciate the opportunity to do something about it." Senator Ed Harbison carried the bill in the Senate saying fake pot is a real health threat. Nelly Miles, GBI: "We will be able to test the hard samples that come off the streets and into the laboratories for testing." Lopez: "I think it's important legislation, and it's the right time to do it."

WSB-TV Local News of Public Interest: Immigration

Immigration Policy Not Strict Enough says Group of State Senators

Date: 06/17/10 5pm duration :37 Jovita Moore

A group of Georgia Senators is letting the board of regents know its immigration policy does not go far enough. They've sent a letter that reads, in part: "persons not lawfully present in the United States are most eligible, regardless of tuition rates, to attend taxpayer supported colleges and universities in Georgia. Fifteen senators, including majority leader Chip Rogers, signed the letter. This comes after the Regents decided last week to check the immigration status of all new college students enrolling in Georgia. It was the Board's first meeting since the controversy surrounding Jessica Colotl, an illegal immigrant at Kennesaw State University.

SHERIFF RESPONSE COBB SOTVO

Date: 05/14/10 6pm duration :25 Monica Pearson

This afternoon we went to Cobb County Sheriff Neil Warren's office for a response, but he wasn't in and we have not been able to reach him by phone. Sheriff Warren told us yesterday this case sends a message to illegal immigrants. Warren: "We have almost 40,000 per year booked into the Cobb County jail. I'm sure a lot of them give us false information and when they do that I'm going to deal with them and take whatever appropriate action I can.

ILLEGAL STUDENT KSU

Date: 05/14/10 11pm duration :35 Monica Pearson

A Kennesaw State University student is mulling over her future after becoming the center of an immigration controversy. Jessica Colotl turned herself in to authorities in Cobb County today. She is in the US illegally - been here since she was 10 years old. Cobb County police arrested her, after they say she lied about her address following a traffic stop. Colotl: "I just hope for the best and hope something positive comes out of this because we really need a reform to fix this messed up system." Immigration agents say they will give Jessica a year to finish her education and then take another look at her case.

12V IMMIGRATION LETTER GWINNETT

Date: 06/18/10 12pm duration :27 Fred Blankenship

The folks who set policy for Georgia colleges and universities are hearing from state lawmakers. They're not satisfied with the Board of Regents immigration policy. A letter signed by 15 senators reads in part, "persons not lawfully present in the United States are not eligible, regardless of tuition rates, to attend taxpayer supported colleges and universities in Georgia." The regents decided last week to check the immigration status of all new college students enrolling in Georgia.

PARKING MORATORIUM ATL

Date: 04/20/10 6pm duration :19 John Pruitt

Some complaints are growing louder over the way Atlanta now is writing parking tickets. So one city council member wants Atlanta to stop writing them, at least for a little while. Some businesses say the parking enforcement is costing them money.

PARKING ENFORCEMENT ATL VO

Date: 06/02/10 6pm duration :34 Jovita Moore

Atlanta's City Council will soon consider new parking improvements after many complaints. A transportation sub-committee today discussed more than two dozen recommendations. They include barcodes for residential parking, and a paid parking pass for one or more days. The committee is also considering a public outreach campaign. Michael Julian Bond: "Both park Atlanta and the city's website need to have interactive maps showing the location of all meters, parking enforcement times ..and residential parking permit programs." The committee may also change enforcement at night - switching from commercial parking to residential.

Georgia's Worst Traffic Chokeholds

Date: **04/20/10 5am** duration :38 **Carol Sbarge**

Your commute this morning might include one of three metro Atlanta highways named the worst chokeholds in Georgia. A transportation group named the Downtown Connector at rush hour *the* worst chokehold in Georgia, followed by I-75 from the Perimeter north to Wade Green Road. Third is I-85 from Spaghetti Junction to Georgia 316 in Gwinnett and DeKalb counties. Former Atlanta Falcon Mike Kenn leads the group and hopes lawmakers pass a measure to fund road projects. Kenn (Georgians for Better Transportation): "The DOT resources – they just don't have the ability to address these chokepoints so it's critical that we pass a supplemental transportation funding bill." Forty of the top 50 chokeholds in Georgia are in metro Atlanta.

Lawmakers Work Toward Transportation Bill

Date: **04/20/10 5pm** duration 1:24 **Lori Geary**

Imani Abdullah: "It appears they are pulling together to try and make it work." As a city of Atlanta resident, Imani Abdullah is so concerned about Atlanta's traffic problems, she decided to sit in on a crucial meeting here at the Capitol on transportation, but there was still no deal announced – just a lot of optimism from House and Senate leaders. From a House perspective, where are you on this deal and how optimistic are you there could be a vote on the floor of the house tomorrow? Jay Roberts: "Oh, I'm very optimistic; we're very close – we've got a few kinks to work out." Mullis: "The important thing is to see that the Senate and the House are working cooperatively." House and Senate leaders are trying to work out a deal on a regional transportation bill. It would allow local officials in a region like metro Atlanta to come up with a list of projects. That vote, though, wouldn't happen until 2012. Geary: "What do you say to those voters and commuters who are stuck in traffic now?" Roberts: "I would say as we move forward we have a process by which we are going to fund transportation for the next ten years." Voters we talked to have mixed feelings about another .01¢ sales tax. Vernon Wright: "They got enough money right now if they manage it well, they can do the job." Wayne Smith: "It's very important that we find other means of funding transportation improvements. The gas tax just doesn't do it."

Georgia Rep Arrested for DUI

Date: 04/29/10 11pm

duration 1:23

Sean Callebs

Coffee County Representative Chuck Sims spent the last day of the legislative session at work.. and listening to the Governor. In stark contrast, Sims spent the previous night..in lock up in the Atlanta jail. The police report shows he was arrested for driving under the influence. Saying, a field sobriety test showed his blood alcohol level at least point-one-oh-five. The incident report shows Sims was driving Downtown when police noticed his white town car was weaving in and out of traffic. They then began following him.. and as he turned on to Piedmont Avenue, cops said the car continued to drift in and out of traffic. It was then authorities pulled Sims over and as they approached the car he opened the door. Police asked for his identification. The lawmaker first produced his state I-D. Police said, "wrong, your driver's license." The incident report says Sims was "..slurring his words....", and seemed "..very scared and nervous..." In an exclusive statement to channel 2 action news.. Sims said.. "Last evening I was cited with a DUI when pulling into my hotel. Although I was alone at the time, I realize that this impacts my family, friends, colleagues, and constituents. And, I am truly sorry for any embarrassment I have caused. I am cooperating fully with the Atlanta Police Department to resolve this matter and I have nothing else further to add at this time other than to offer my apology."

Collier Road Work Snarls Traffic

Date: 05/06/10 6pm

duration :40

Monica Pearson

Residents in one northwest Atlanta neighborhood want some relief from detoured traffic. While crews are replacing a drainage pipe at Collier Road and Woodland Hills Avenue, they've closed Collier to everyone except those who live here. But it's obvious other drivers are still coming through. One resident videotaped this big tractor-trailer trying to weave its way through the streets. Ruthe Clark: "It's really bad. It's really crowded, it's really loud. Can't go walk in the neighborhood. You can't go run – keeps us up at night – horns honking all the time. And it's a family oriented neighborhood so it's putting a damper on everyone I think." Police came to the road today, but after they left drivers ignored the signs.

WSB-TV Local News of Public Interest: Law Enforcement / Criminal Justice

Roswell Police to Cease DUI Quota System

Date: 05/10/10 12pm duration :23 Fred Blankenship

The Roswell police department has done away with a quota for DUI arrests. In January, a shift supervisor ordered *overnight* officers to make 25 DUI arrests a year. But Chief Ed Williams now says he didn't know the supervisor imposed the rule. From January to April DUI arrests by officers working 11pm-7am rose 67%, compared to the same time last year. The Chief says he has told his staff not to use quotas.

11P TEXTING DRIVING ATL PKG

Date: **06/13/10 11pm** **duration 1:14** **George Howell**

Sarah Hartman says, "I've been in the car with people before and they were not keeping their eye on the road, and I'd say, for the love! Stop texting, watch the road." Sarah Hartman knows it's not safe, but even she admits.. "it's a problem," Hartman says, "like any other automatic reflex, you hear it. You pick it up. You try to pay attention to what you're doing. But I think we're a culture of multi-taskers and I'm guilty of it as well." But come July 1st.. Sgt. Curtis Davenport says, "If we see that you're texting, and we need to pull you over, we'll be issuing a citation, and you'll have your day in court." A new state law makes it illegal to text and drive in Georgia.- Sarah Hartman says, "I think it's a great idea in principal." But many drivers have the same question.Hartman: "I don't know how they enforce that law." Charles Stadtlander says, "There is no way that a police officer will be able to tell the difference between someone making a telephone call or sending a text message." GHO asks "How do you enforce this law?" APD Sgt. Curtis Davenport says, Well, I'm going to compare it similar to seatbelt violations." Atlanta Police say it's not hard to spot. Sgt. Curtis Davenport: "You would be surprised what you can see just pulling up next to somebody. Generally speaking when people are texting while driving they have their phones in an upward position because they want to pay attention to the road and the telephone at the same time." Some argue the new law gives police too much discretion. Charles Stadtlander says, "You get hit with a ticket, what do you do! I fight it!" Others hope it changes habits. Ebony Hargett says, "I wouldn't be upset if I got pulled over for texting, because it is a dangerous move and it is a dangerous decision."

Congressional Candidate Claims Racism in Debate Exclusion

Date: 06/03/10 6am duration :45 Fred Blankenship

A candidate forum in the 4th congressional district turned into a controversy over race. Republican candidate Liz Carter publicly said she had not been invited because she's white. Newsmakers Livejournal's website made no mention of her - or two other Republicans. But the site posted pictures of all four black candidates, including incumbent Hank Johnson and Republican Cory Ruth. The executive editor *denied* Carter's suggestions. Maynard Eaton: "There's never been a Republican primary in 4th congressional district. This will be the first one. When we saw one black Republican candidate that had been the history. I applaud her for running. Nobody in my history didn't know who she was." Carter *did* participate in last night's forum. So did fellow Republican Ruth and Democrats Connie Stokes and Vernon Jones.

Local Artists Protest Potential Budget Cuts

Date: 04/19/10 6am duration :41 Carol Sbarge

Later today local artists are taking their complaints in a funding controversy right to the state capitol. The artists are trying to stop lawmakers from turning Georgia into the only state without an Arts Council. The Dogwood Festival over the weekend is an event that gets some money through the Georgia Council for the Arts. Kimmy Cantrell plans to march. Cantrell: "Because arts are important and it's a vital part of the community, we need it for the kids and I'm an artist. I make a living doing this." Another agency would take control of some grant money traditionally handed out by the council. But supporters of the council says hundreds of thousands in federal funding would be lost. The march is planned for one this afternoon.

Date: 04/21/10 12pm duration :34 Fred Blankenship

Local artists are feeling better about a funding controversy at the state capitol. Yesterday, a senate panel restored funding for the Georgia Council for the Arts. The senate appropriations committee approved a \$17.8 billion dollar budget. It includes money the house had stripped from the Arts Council. Jack Hill: "In some ways it may be hard to defend funding for the arts but it's a good deal for the state in matching up those federal funds." Here you see artists protesting at the capitol Monday. The senate still must convince House leaders to restore the funding by almost \$1 million dollars.

Candidate Speaks Out on Qualifying Regulations

Date: 04/26/10 6pm duration :45 John Pruitt

There was some high drama on the Republican side of qualifying today. Ray Boyd: "I have a question for you, if Ronald Reagan were sitting here would Ronald Reagan not qualify?" Attorney: "Not with the Georgia Republican party." Boyd: "So he could not run in Georgia as a Republican?" Republicans blocked multi-millionaire and newcomer to politics Ray Boyd from running for Governor because he won't sign an oath pledging his allegiance to the Georgia GOP. Boyd: "It's dumb as heck what they're doing. If they look at it strictly as a party issue, by throwing me out of the party, I'm not going to take Democratic votes, I'm going to take Republican votes." Sue Everhart: "We've had over 150 people today sign this oath without any problems whatsoever. He just has a problem with it, I think he's grandstanding." Boyd says he plans to gather enough signatures to run as an independent.

Michael Thurmond to Challenge Isakson

Date: 04/21/10 6pm

duration 1:20

Lori Geary

Michael Thurmond: "As a little boy, I'd sit under that oak tree and I would dream that one day..." Georgia's Labor Commissioner choked back tears as he announced his candidacy for the US Senate. Thurmond: "that after three generations of sharecroppers who could not read that one day we would rise above it; that one day I would rise above it." Thurmond made the emotional announcement with his wife Zola by his side. He takes on a popular Republican incumbent in Johnny Isakson who has recently battled some health issues. But Isakson is a seasoned politician and was quick to respond that he's energized and ready to run a vigorous campaign. The incumbent came out fighting, saying "Georgians will get to choose whether they want someone who represents their conservative values or someone who will push the Obama/Reid/Pelosi agenda." Thurmond: "I like to tell people, Lori, my Georgia never turned red. It's been blue because I've been getting elected and re-elected." Political analyst Matt Towery says Thurmond has a tough campaign ahead. Towery: "It's an uphill battle. There's no doubt about it, but you got a guy in Thurmond who is seasoned, has been there and is well liked. That's what he's got going for him." Thurmond: "I am a living, breathing testament that the American dream is alive and well in this country today."

CELL TOWER FIGHT GWINNETT COUNTY

Date: 04/20/10 6pm duration :36 Monica Pearson

Residents of one Gwinnett County neighborhood lost their fight today to block construction of a cell phone tower. T-Mobile got the OK to build the 100 foot tower, near this monastery on Ridgeville Drive. It adjoins a subdivision. The tower will be disguised as a pine tree, but residents still don't want it. They say the tower will hurt property values. Resident Ralph Murchison: "There are industrial areas and there are more open areas that are available." Gwinnett commissioners approved the tower this afternoon. They say it will be hidden below the tree line. T-Mobile will be required to landscape the area around the tower maintenance shed.

Community Concerned About Presence of Pawn Shop

Date: 04/28/10 6am duration :35 Fred Blankenship

This afternoon some Atlanta city council members will announce a boycott of a local pawn shop. Neighbors are upset the Northside Loan office plans to open a new pawn shop. It's located about 700 feet from Booker T. Washington High School, and not far from the Atlanta University Center. Owner Stephen Dell is relocating from Edgewood Avenue to MLK, Jr Drive. Residents are worried about gun sales and crime. Jarrell Pealer: "I'm jut in the back of it. I really have concerns about it, and with the little minor drug activity in this area along with petty thieves I have to worry about break-ins." The owner says he follows *all* gun laws and will take security precautions.

Lithonia Residents Upset over Polluted River

Date: 08/04/10 6pm duration :42 Sean Callebs

Lithonia residents are holding a meeting about the effects of the polluted South River near Panola Road. Residents are upset that they've been swimming in this river, without knowing it's horribly polluted. The state calls it an "impaired" river – filled with fecal matter. Neighbors point out the signs say nothing about pollution. Gerald Champion: >>"Why would you string a walking path that close to the water..and open up a beach effect, with the sand..saying ..come on down here here, the water's all right." That walking path was finished earlier this year. Residents say they're demanding pollution warning signs be added, and that the water be tested twice a week.

Blighted Apartment Buildings in Sandy Springs

Date: 04/12/10 5pm duration 1:23 Jeff Dore

Along Roswell Road in Sandy Springs, some shopping centers and offices are big, empty spaces, offices. Some empty parcels have gone to seed. If Sandy Springs designates them opportunity zones, businesses could get \$3,500 dollars off their state taxes for creating jobs there. Mayor Eva Galambos jumped at the opportunity. Galambos: "and we think an occupied office building is a lot better than an empty one." To get the designation, Sandy Springs would have to do some serious name-calling about those parcels, one of which is a hundred yards from Robin Beechey's home. Beechey: "It has to pass a resolution declaring that this is – and this is the word in the act – a slum." One parcel that could be labeled a slum sits directly behind these fashionable houses, and some residents worry if that label could hurt their values. Galambos: "Is it better to admit what is behind your back yard needs fixing up or is it better to close your eyes and say we don't want to do anything?" This whole issue came up suddenly and showed up on a city council agenda out of nowhere. Beechey: "What is a matter of major concern is the lack of consultation, the lack of public participation, the rush." But on May 5th, the state will consider changing the law. Galambos: "and we want to get in before we lose the opportunity to get the money."

