

AUSTIN NEWS kxan.com

MEMORANDUM

TO: KXAN Public Files

RE: Issues and Programs Report – Third Quarter 2011
July 1 - September 30

DATE: October 3, 2011

The major significant problems and needs of the Austin community are:

1. Crime
2. Government
3. Education
4. Health and Safety

Attached are examples of local news reports, public service efforts, local programming, and syndicated programs that have addressed these issues. Additionally, as an NBC affiliate, we broadcast network programs that discuss these problems and needs from a national perspective. These include “Dateline” and “Meet the Press.”

PROGRAMS OF SIGNIFICANT INTEREST

NAME OF PROGRAM	DAYS AIRED	TIME AIRED
Austin News Today	Monday-Sunday	(M-F) 5:00-7:00 a.m. (Sat) 7:00-9:00 a.m. (Sun) 7 & 9 a.m.
Austin News Today Show Cut-ins	Monday-Friday	7:26-7:30 a.m. 7:56-8:00 a.m. 8:26-8:30 a.m. 8:56-9:00 a.m.
Austin News @ noon	Monday-Friday	12-1:00 p.m.
Austin News @ 5	Monday-Friday + Sunday	5:00-5:30 p.m.
Austin News @ 6	Monday - Saturday	6-6:30 p.m.
Austin News @ 10	Monday-Friday	10:00-10:35 p.m.

	Saturday-Sunday	10:00-10:30 p.m.
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All of these programs are produced locally and are a mix of news, weather and sports.

KXAN also airs NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams, Monday – Friday at 5:30 – 6:00 p.m., and NBC Nightly News on Saturday and Sunday at 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.

NBC Nightly News has two ongoing reports that are relevant to the community we serve.

NBC Nightly News – Making a Difference synopsis:

”Making a Difference” stories air every Friday on “NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams.” The series was conceived in response to viewers who complain that the broadcast features only "bad" news. Viewers can also read and watch the stories on the NBC Nightly News website and use the mailbag to tell NBC about someone they know who is making a difference.

NBC Nightly News – What Works synopsis:

“What Works” is a continuing series on "NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams." These are "reports which spotlight ideas or innovations that are solving various problems in communities across the country." Viewers can read and watch all the stories from the series on NBC Nightly News website.

CRIME

7/2/11 Cop Car

Duration :30 seconds

A man is facing felony charges for impersonating a police officer. Officers noticed an unmarked police car at a shopping center off of Brodie Lane in South Austin on Friday. When they asked Crag Redhawk about the car, he said he was a member of the Choctaw Tribal Police and showed officers a silver badge and police style identification. After investigating the case further, police found the car belonged to Williamson County and there was no record of Redhawk working for Choctaw P-D. Police promptly arrested Redhawk.

7/2/11 Travel Warning

Duration :30 seconds

State troopers do not want you traveling to Mexican border towns this July Fourth weekend. They say drug cartels are targeting Americans and you could be a victim. This warning comes after a five-hour shootout between the *Zetas* drug cartel and a U.S. Marine convoy in San-Jose-de-Lourdes yesterday. 15 gunmen were killed, six marines were injured and 17 gang members were captured. The *Zetas* are considered to be one of Mexico's most brutal gangs.

7/2/11 No Refusal Weekend

Duration 1:33 minutes

Fourth of July partying is getting going on sixth street. Jacob says "We're drinking. It is a great summer day so why not come out and have a good time?" Having a good time is fine unless you decide to get behind the wheel and drive drunk. It is a statewide no refusal weekend. It is the first of it's kind and some Austin-ites are not taking kindly to the idea of mandatory blood draws if they refuse a breathalyzer. Jacob: "It just inhibits the amount of fun that people are able to have and you know what? If we would beef up our infrastructure and public transportation, we wouldn't have to worry so much about drinking and driving." Stetson will be "cabbing" it home with a few of his friends like Campagna. Gina: "The only thing I would I think maybe this would do is encourage people to take a cab but. Jackie: Do you see people cutting back on how much they are drinking. Gina: No, not at all and it's a holiday weekend. They are going to drink more no matter what. People have been drinking and unfortunately driving. Austin police handed out 27 DWI's Friday night. Of all of those arrests, officers conducted 16 breath tests and 14 blood draws. If you don't want to have a roadside meeting with DPS or APD officers and a date in bond court, Jacob Stetson offers this advice: "Call a cab. I mean \$10 is a lot less than \$10,000."

7/4/11 Casey Anthony

Duration: 2:00 minutes

The jury finished the first day of deliberations with no decision. It comes after more than six weeks. There was a lot for the jury to work through. "They are going to consider second degree murder, manslaughter, third degree felony murder, and two types of first degree murder by the way, premeditated and felony murder, they don't even have to agree on which it is as long as 12 of them think it's first degree murder. And then there are 6 other counts, so it is complicated." The prosecution got the last word this morning. "To say that there is no evidence to connect Casey Anthony to Caylee's death ignores all of this evidence." The rebuttal to the closing argument from the defense first focused on science and then shifted to the accused. Nats: "Pathological liar." The state again used pictures, videos and Case Anthony's phone calls from jail, to describe what they allege was a cover up by a young mother who killed her daughter. Linda Drane Burdick said "What do guilty people do? They lie. They avoid. They run, and they mislead." Three times during the rebuttal, Casey seemed to respond first as Ashton talked about her father. Jeff Ashton, the prosecutor "George is not this Machiavellian self-interested-monster." Casey could be seen mouthing "yes he is." Then Linda Burdick described the evidence in the case "Even George Anthony didn't have access to all of these things. Only Casey Anthony did." She seemed to be saying "that's not true," and as Burdick discussed Casey blaming her dad, she mouthed "it is his fault." The fault and her fate are now in the hands of the five men and seven women locked in deliberations.

8/3/11 6th Street Drugging

Duration 1:30 minutes

APD investigators are actually looking into three different incidents where this happened one back in late September and the other in October. All three victims were approached on 6th street one was dropped off and the other two woke up in a hotel parking lot with no memory of what happened the night before. Surveillance video captured the women at South Austin Walmart making transactions with the victims' cards. The video shows at one point, the group splitting up and in a few of the transactions, some of the suspects are shown purchasing gift cards. Police are looking for four suspects. All of them black females between the ages of 20 and thirty years old. One of the suspects is described as having medium length black hair and a medium build. Another is said to have short hair and is heavy set. The other two are also described as having medium length, straight black hair. Police say the females were dropped off at Walmart in a white van or Suburban, with tinted windows and dark coloring on the bottom. It's also the same type of vehicle the victims remember being picked up in. Sgt. Justin Newsom, "Two of the males report that they were with friends and that they were drinking, but they were not intoxicated and at some point they lost consciousness and all memory of what had occurred. So, it's believed that were possibly drugged. Although there's no proof of that yet."

8/3/11 Cancer Society Theft

Duration :30 seconds

A former Austin American Cancer Society worker is facing 20 years behind bars for an elaborate cell phone scam. The FBI says 50 year old John Phillip Martin bought 90 cell phones with the Cancer Society's Sprint Account. An affidavit says he turned around and sold those phones for a profit on Ebay and Craigslist. The Cancer Society says Martin stole nearly \$600,000 from the charity. AACCS representative said "We're outraged that an employee can actually steal from an organization in fact when we're here to serve cancer patients." The Cancer society says it has changed its internal controls after the theft.

8/4/11 Carroll in Court

Duration :45 seconds

A deal is on the table for a former child advocate accused of sexually assaulting at least six young girls. Police call 53-year-old Billy Dan Carroll a child sexual predator after they viewed hours of video they found in his home and office. In those tapes, police say, Carroll was performing sex acts on girls as young as two-years-old. Investigators have identified his victims, with one case dating back to the early 80's. With that type of evidence, the prosecution offered a deal of four concurrent life sentences and two life sentences stacked on top. But Carroll's attorney says his client is not ready to take it. Bill Hines, attorney for Billy Carroll says "We just received that offer and we are going to give it the consideration that it is due and make a decision. At this point we are preparing for trial." Carroll will let the court know his decision next week.

9/1/11 Sexting Confusion

Duration 1:40 minutes

Texas teenagers caught sending nude photos to other teens will no longer face the same consequences as adults caught with child pornography. Senator Kirk Watson, Democrat of Austin says, "We wanted to make sure that was fixed so kids wouldn't be saddled with a pornography felony and maybe being required to register as a sex offender because of a dumb mistake." State Senator Kirk Watson is behind the new law that lowers the charge for teens caught the first time to a class c misdemeanor. It also protects kids who receive pictures and delete them without sending them to anyone else. Jodi Cole a Criminal Defense Attorney sees holes in the law and says, "I'm a parent of a 15-year-old and with that circle that I'm in, parents are extremely confused and fearful as to what they should do to protect their child and themselves." She feels the law exposes kids to more criminal convictions. Before, many teen-to-teen sexting cases were thrown out because the felony charges were too stiff. Cole also worries the law will not protect parents from child porn charges who may find illegal photos on their child's phone. Cole says, "They are not protected by the law the way that school administrators who would do the same thing or law enforcement are." Watson says, "People that raise that as an issue are looking for reasons to just be critical." Senator Watson says parents need to do the same thing they would have done before the new law went into effect. Watson says, "The bottom line is they need to get rid of it. They need to feel comfortable reporting it the same way they would report other activity."

9/1/11 Holiday Inn Threat

Duration :30 seconds

We have new details this evening about a SWAT stand-off that caused an entire downtown hotel to be evacuated. Police say "Cory Meneely" faces felony charges for threatening to burn down the *Holiday Inn* along Lady Bird Lake. Officers say Meneely locked himself in a "storage closet" on the 10th floor and claimed he would attack whoever came in. Because smoke was also coming from the room, the *Holiday Inn* had all of their guests evacuate. 17 of those guests were taken to the nearby *Sheraton Hotel*. Later that night the APD SWAT team forcibly removed him from the room.

9/2/11 Human Smuggling

Duration :25 seconds

Police have made another arrest in the human smuggling case we told you about earlier this week. Officers say 29-year-old "Vidal Perez" is now facing kidnapping charges along with his step-son "Juan Mata." The two are accused of holding a woman and her family captive at a South Austin apartment. The woman was able to escape with her children - and alerted police right away.

EDUCATION

7/8/11 ACC Tuition Increase

Duration :25 seconds

Austin Community College students will have to pay more starting next year. The board of trustees approved a hike to tuition beginning next spring by five dollars a credit hour. In district students will now pay 57 dollars per credit hour. Out of district students will

have to shell out just under 200-dollars. ACC leaders say the increase is necessary to help make up for a drop in state funding.

7/21/11 ACC ranks among top 10 in Nation

Duration :45 seconds

Austin Community College is getting national attention, ranking among the top 10 in the nation for health sciences degrees. The report issued by Community College Week ranked ACC one of the top 10 associate-degree programs and certificate producers in the country. ACC placed eighth in the nation for doling out associate degrees in health professions. Of those degrees, ACC ranked seventh in the nation for awarding associate degrees in nursing and related programs. "This ranking is a reflection of the emphasis ACC places on graduation and student success," says Dr. Stephen B. Kinslow, ACC president and CEO. "Research consistently shows the value of earning an associate degree or certificate. We encourage all students to make graduation one of their goals." Data from the study is based on schools in the 2009 to 2010 academic year, according to the U.S. Department of Education. When accounting for all associate degrees, the college ranked 69th and 84th for awards of two-year certificates. ACC was 54th in awarding associate degrees to Hispanic students and 73rd for all other minorities. When taking into account four-year institutions ACC ranked 96th in the country for awards of associate degrees across all disciplines and 91st for two-year certificates. The college ranked 19th for degrees in health professions and 15th for awards of associate degrees in registered nursing and related programs.

7/21/11 Science Materials Almost Approved

Duration :30 seconds

The Texas State Board of Education has given preliminary approval to supplemental science materials for the upcoming school year and beyond. The board made only minor changes to the materials after several hours of public debate over the teaching of evolution. An Austin-based online textbook company, Sapling Learning, was chosen as the company to provide the online supplemental science material. The public testimony portion of Thursday's hearing briefly renewed Texas' long debate pitting creationism against evolution. The Republican-dominated board drew national attention in 2009 when it adopted statewide standards encouraging schools to scrutinize "all sides" of scientific theory. Thursday's public hearing drew dozens of witness comments on evolution. But it produced little debate among board members themselves before they cast a unanimous vote to approve the materials. A final vote is scheduled Friday.

8/2/11 AISD Rehires

Duration :30 seconds

The Austin School District will rehire up to 35 teachers they laid off earlier this year. A-I-S-D CUT Some the elementary teaching positions - expecting state lawmakers to allow bigger class sizes. That didn't pass. Now, schools have to stick to a ratio of 22 students per teacher which means they need more teachers. But they're going to hire them right away - and they may not need all 35. A-I-S-D says they'll wait until the school year starts and see how many students show up.

School principals will make the final call.

8/3/11 Marble Falls High School Choir

Duration :45 seconds

Next week some Hill Country high school student singers will take on the performance of their lives. The Marble Falls High School Chorale has been selected to perform at the White House next Tuesday night. The 44-members have been practicing non-stop since mid-October. The sophomores, juniors and seniors were selected to sing for an hour and a half straight for V-I-P's in the East Wing during a Christmas open house. And they couldn't be more excited. Logan Clark, Chorale Member, says "It's just one of those things that comes up one day and you're all high and fly about it." The Choir Director, Bryce Gage says that "It's pretty monumental for us." They don't know if they'll get to meet the President during their visit, but the students say they hope they will.

9/2/11 UT Student Falls

Duration :35 seconds

Friends and family will gather today to remember a University of Texas student who died this week after falling off a west campus balcony. There will be a visitation for the 19-year-old sophomore, Richard Holland of Plano, tonight at six in Dallas. A funeral will be held tomorrow. At a memorial on Tuesday, the University Catholic Center told us earlier this week that they would try to take friends to the visitation to pay their respects. Late Monday night, Holland fell from the fifth floor of an apartment at 23rd and Pearl. Austin Police have told us they aren't sure what led up to the fall, and they are investigation it.

9/5/11 School Closures Due to Fires in the Area

Duration :25 seconds

The following schools will be closed until further notice: Laura Bush Elementary School, River Ridge Elementary School, Steiner Elementary School, Canyon Ridge Middle School, Four Points Middle School, Vandergrift High School, All Bastrop ISD Schools and All Smithville ISD Schools.

9/9/11 Bastrop Schools to Reopen Monday

Duration 2:00 minutes

Classes will resume Monday in Bastrop, even though officials acknowledged that it will be anything but an ordinary school day. "We understand fully that school may not be in (the) normal sequence that it might be," Superintendent Steve Murray said at Friday's news briefing. "We heard from parents and children they want to get back to some sense of normalcy." Classes have been canceled all week as Bastrop County attempts to cope with raging wildfires that have claimed some 1,400 homes and charred more than 34,000 acres. Two residents have lost their lives, and scores of family pets remain unaccounted for. Murray said the school district will have special counselors in to assist the students and the staff once they return. "One unique thing, with over 9,000 students, 300 students became homeless," Murray said. "We anticipate the homeless count to triple or quadruple or even more. "We are doing training for staff. We will work with students to get them back to school, to their home campus but it may not be the case for all students." For info on routes pickups and drop-offs, call 512-321-5262 or 512-321-5706. Murray said donations have come in to make sure students who have been displaced have clothing and

basic supplies. Also, all campuses will be providing free breakfasts and lunch for the returning students.

GOVERNMENT

7/1/11 Widow Project

Duration 2:00 minutes

From a new two room office in East Austin Taryn Davis connects with military widows across the country. "I tell people I'm in love with this office. It hurts to know that obviously they have a very long journey in front of them but its exciting for me to know that I can provide them a resource that I didn't have." Davis understands their loss. The words are burned in her mind. "Secretary of defense regrets to inform you that your husband was killed." In May 2007, Michael Davis died from a roadside bomb in Iraq. "He was my best friend, he is still my best friend, soul mate. I feel very lucky to hold the last name Davis." After he died though, she felt lost and alone. "I was 21 at the time of his death and people stopped talking about him. People wanted me to stop talking about him. They wrote off my grief due to my young age, like oh, you'll go get remarried everything will be ok." But she didn't want to forget she's a young widow, so Davis searched for support. "I typed in widow and it came back with the response did you mean window?" That's when she created the American Widow Project. "It was out of survival instincts I think that America Widow Project came to be." A nonprofit that offers widows a website with hundreds of personal stories, a 24-hour hotline and life enhancing trips to swim with dolphins, skydive, or give back to various communities. "This one was our event in Tennessee." Each event, every story, each connection--makes Davis more determined to help others. "These are women that saved my life and they're still saving my life and I feel like I owe it to them." Like the motto on her new office wall she wants widows to know it's still possible to dream big, live big, love big. "We just want to allow them to see that they can find happiness again and they can smile and they don't have to feel bad about it. Just because their husband isn't here to do it doesn't mean he wouldn't want them to smile."

7/4/11 GOP Candidates

Duration :45 seconds

It has been a working holiday for the Republican candidates running for President. Many of them spent July 4th trying to solidify support. Former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney and Former Utah Governor John Huntsman marked independence day in New Hampshire which holds the nation's first primary. Both say they feel confident about a win in the state. Other GOP candidates flocked to Iowa. That's where Minnesota Representative Michelle Bachmann reached out to voters saying "So glad we were here because what we saw was concentrated support." Romney remains the GOP frontrunner. But former business man Herman McCain has recently picked up support. Needless to say it was a very busy holiday for those vying for the White House.

7/4/11 Facebook Divorces

Duration 2:26 minutes

The social union of marriage has been called the oldest institution, and the social medium of Facebook, is one of the newest. But the sanctity of marriage has found a new challenge in the form of status updates, pictures, and friend requests. The woman we are interviewing wants to remain anonymous because she has children who have already been brought into a messy split with her ex-husband one that played out over Facebook a place where you can put things for everyone to see even dirty laundry. And the de-friend button was useless because, with mutual friends from a soured marriage still online, her business became everyone's. "It can affect my child's life, business life, personal, my religious community." And when divorce gets that nasty, and the comments get serious, they are ending up as evidence in front of someone like Judge Orlinda Naranjo who has been seeing a trend. If a picture or comment is made on facebook it usually is admissible as evidence, and can be used against you. And Naranjo says it helps her or a jury to see what kind of person you really are. You have a document that contradicts the persona they try to portray in courtroom. Attorney Clay Butler says it's one of the first places an attorney will look to see what you're doing. So just know, before you post that picture or make that comment someone down the road may not like it. Day to day you will hear a story where an attorney found a posting or photo that completely won or lost his case for him. Joe Milner of Milner Law Firm says that it is sort of like e-mail people say things in e-mails they'd never say anywhere else And whether you mean it or not and even if you delete it attorneys like Joe Milner will be looking if there is information we can use, we will use it, it's just another source, a source that you continue to feed every time you post a picture, make a status update or approve friend requests. And as this woman can tell you, friendships and relationships can come to an end sometimes in an ugly way. We all have our crosses to bear, make mistakes, but to drag it into the public eye?

8/2/11 The Debt Deal

Duration :55 seconds

The President signed the compromise debt deal today that prevented the federal government from defaulting on its obligations like paying *Social Security* and our men and women in uniform. He called the 2-point-5 trillion dollar deficit reduction package simply "a first step" and argued more must be done. President Obama: "That means making some adjustments to protect health care programs like Medicare so they're there for future generations. It also means reforming our tax code so that the wealthiest Americans and biggest corporations pay their fair share." Sen. Carl Levin/(D) Michigan: "To say that the legislation before us is not ideal is truly an understatement." Sen. Mitch McConnell/(R) Minority Leader: "This bill does not solve the problem. But it forces Washington to admit that it has one." It remains unclear which government programs will be the biggest losers -or winners - since a bipartisan super committee will have to identify \$1-point-5 trillion of the cuts later this year.

8/4/11 City Counsel

Duration :20 seconds

Right now, the City of Austin is talking about taking another step toward banning plastic bags. Council members will vote soon -on whether to have the city manager draw up with a plan to phase out plastic bags in most Austin stores. The city manager will have a final ordinance ready for the council to vote on in November. And they'll hear plenty about it

from both sides of the debate before then. The council also decided to bring the Trail of Lights back this year, by handing it over to a local events production company. The company says, for the most part, the trail of lights will be the same as years past. But they will charge a 5-dollar fee to enjoy the lights and all that come with them. And the council approved spending close to a million bucks to buy a new 9-1-1 recording system. The city says the new system will replace an outdated one and it will record both 9-1-1 calls and first responders' radio traffic. Once up and running, the city says the new system will help better prepare emergency responders.

9/1/11 Obama's Speech

Duration :30 seconds

The White House is trying to play down a scheduling controversy over President Obama's big jobs speech to Congress next week. The president wanted to give the speech on Wednesday - the same night as a Republican presidential debate in California. But Republicans accuse the president of trying to upstage the candidates. Jay Carney a White House spokesman: "The sideshows don't matter. The economy matters. The American people matter. Jobs matter. That's what we're focused on." The speech was bumped to Thursday - pro football's opening night. But the President promises to wrap up before kick-off.

9/1/11 We the People

Duration :25 seconds

Today the White House launched *We the People*, a new way to engage the American public online. Using the new website, community members can create and sign petitions in hopes of prompting change at the federal level. With enough signatures, White House staff will review the petitions and send it to the appropriate policy experts. Members can sign up to start submitting petitions later this month.

HEALTH & SAFETY

7/1/11 Heat Precautions

Duration :30 seconds

Local doctors report more cases of heat-related illnesses since we've had such high temperatures already this summer. They include heat rash, sunburns, heat cramps, heat exhaustion and even heat stroke. Your keys to prevention are water, loose-fitting clothes, shade and air-conditioning. Treatment is often supportive which means there's not a ton the doctor can do once you've already suffered the injury so prevention is the key. Doctors also say heat-related illnesses are cumulative. That means if you're out in the heat one day you'll get sicker faster in it the next.

7/1/11 Power Plant Implosion

Duration :25 seconds

The intense Texas heat caused a bit of a hitch at a North Texas demolition today: A retired power plant was supposed to come down at 11 a.m. today in Frisco - north of Dallas. The first try didn't work because 14 charged detonators overheated and failed. But

the implosion happened as intended on the second try. The Collin County power plant will largely be recycled after having been in use for nearly 50 years.

7/1/11 Wildfire Disaster

Duration :30 seconds

President Barack Obama has declared a major disaster for parts of Texas ravaged by wildfires in April and early May. Today's declaration frees up federal aid to help state and local recovery efforts in 45 counties. The president had previously denied Texas' disaster requests, sparking a fight with Governor Rick Perry. Today, Perry said this declaration covers just a fraction of the fires fought in Texas so far this season - and his office will continue to work with FEMA to make sure all counties get the support they need.

7/1/11 Texas Burn Bans

Duration :45 seconds

All but just a handful of Texas counties are under outdoor burn bans for this 4th of July weekend. And state regulations are plastered all over parks like *McKinney Falls State Park*. Conditions are so dry the smallest spark could ignite a quick spreading fire. The rules are simple and the penalty steep. "You can't have an open fire, containerized fuels are allowed. It's something we want people to take great precaution in because our fuels are very dry because of the drought." "I don't like it but I understand it. That's why we bought a propane grill just for that purpose. It cooks good, it cooks good." If park rangers catch you using wood or charcoal in an open fire you could be fined up to \$500.

7/5/11 Quit Line Spike

Duration :25 seconds

New labels on cigarettes may already be urging consumers to put down the pack and pick up the phone. The day the FDA released new graphic photos, a national smokers' "quit line" received more than double its normal number of calls. 1-800-QUIT-NOW logged 48-hundred calls last Tuesday and 32-hundred the following day. The gruesome new label, some featuring pictures of rotting teeth and diseased lungs, won't show up on packs for another year.

8/1/11 Problem Intersection

Duration 1:55 minutes

We hear the impact, we hear the accidents, we hear the screeching tires all the time right here" says Steven Trainor. At the intersection of Fletcher Lane and Old Bee Caves Road, Mr. Trainor worries someone will be killed. "It's really scary. There are people that walk down that road. There are kids that come out for school and stuff. It's just very dangerous." It seems there are a couple issues at this intersection. For one, drivers turning onto Old Bee Caves Road from Fletcher Lane have to pull far past the stop sign to see if traffic is coming. And drivers on Old Bee Caves have to maneuver through a sharp turn just before the road intersects with Fletcher. "These cars coming from that direction, they've got a blind spot and they don't see nothing until they're almost on top of them." Neighbors say the road is heavily travelled because many use it as a shortcut to get through the Y at Oak Hill. We saw one near miss... Neighbors say most crashes happen at

night. "It's not lit up enough and people fly this road at night a little faster." According to Austin Police Department numbers there have only been five crashes at the intersection since January 2008. But neighbors say the ones that have happened were serious. "It gets packed like that all the time and people jump out and nobody is paying attention when they come around that corner and people get hurt you know." "People who live in the Trails of Oak Hill say in at least two of the crashes, cars went slamming into the walls surrounding the neighborhood. They say the community recently put up this stop sign but it's certainly not official." "That was people taking it upon themselves to make other people aware this is an intersection." Neighbors hope someone does something before any more crashes happen. "Put a stop light up for all four directions."

8/1/11 New Medical Centers

Duration :55 seconds

A new medical center started serving patients today bringing much-needed health services to a growing part of Travis County, west of Austin. St. David's opened this Emergency Center right in front of the *Bee Cave City Hall* on 71. It's now open 24-hours a day, 7 days a week - with a dozen exam rooms to treat patients. They expect to see more than 7-thousand patients in the first year. And the new *Lakeway Regional Medical Center* will open next year just up 620. The two facilities mean people in the area will be able to get medical attention much faster. It's been a need that's been here for a long time. So it's supplying a pent-up demand that exists, plus a future demand that is expected. Lakeway alone has grown by more than 50-percent since the 2000 Census. And the mayor expects the medical centers to bring even more growth from other commercial business.

8/1/11 Birth Control

Duration :35 seconds

One year from today birth control will be virtually free to many women. It's all because of new guidelines issued today by the Department of Health and Human Services. Starting August 1st, 2012, insurance companies will be required to cover all F-D-A approved contraceptives for new plans without a co-pay. That includes the pill, I-U-D's and the so-called "morning after pill" A prescription that works by blocking or delaying ovulation. Under the new guidelines, women with health coverage will also be entitled to an annual physical, H-P-V screening, breast pumps and counseling on domestic violence.

9/1/11 Texas Wildfires

Duration :40 seconds

Wildfires continue to chew through parts of Texas. West of Fort Worth, the fire near Possum Kingdom lake continues to burn for a third day. That fire has already destroyed at least 40 homes. Hundreds more are in the path of the flames. And it's only about half contained, according to firefighters. This is the second major wildfire to hit the area in the past four months. Closer to home, a wild fire at Fort Hood has burned 15-hundred acres. It's about 60-percent contained right now. Early on, it burned a couple of power poles and knocked out power in the area. More than 100 Fort Hood firefighters and soldiers are working together to put this one out.

9/1/11 Brush Fire Danger

Duration :45 seconds

An update now on the brush fire danger investigation we aired last night: Some people living in Northern Travis County called KXAN about brush piles near their homes in a field at Merriltown Road and Mopac. They say the piles have been there for years and worry all that dry wood could potentially add more fuel to a wildfire. Firefighters say the piles don't break any fire code violations, because the property owner keeps a clearance between them and the property line. But after our report, an environmental investigator with the Travis County Attorney's Office inspected the piles and took pictures of them. The investigator says the piles may violate the Texas Health and Safety Code as it relates to illegal dumping. He's now trying to get in touch with the property owner to discuss the possible violations. We'll keep you posted.

9/1/11 Seton ER Online

Duration 1:45 minutes

Empty emergency rooms are the goal of Seton Hospitals. Usually you come to the emergency room, you're waiting in the emergency room. That's why the medical centers began offering an online triage called In Quicker. You may still wait but now you can wait in the comfort of your home until your appointment time. The online service allows you to pick an arrival time at the hospital emergency room and then you are guaranteed to see a healthcare professional within 15 minutes of that designated arrival time. It's not the same old paper world that people like myself grew up in. Hospital staff say the new service benefits patients minimizing the amount of time they spend in the ER and therefore minimizing the risk of catching something contagious. Especially as we get ready to enter the flu season that you can wait in the comfort of your own home or in the environment which you choose not having to be exposed to what you may be exposed to that comes in through the doors. The system allows patients with non life threatening conditions to enter their symptoms online. The In Quicker software recognizes key words and prioritizes patient visits by their condition's severity. It will also tell them to call 911 right away if a symptom entered into the online triage triggers a red flag. It's a smart system and it screens and if you're thinking that the reason for your visit is something minor but it truly isn't and the description you write into the system tell us that, it's going to direct you out of the system and direct you to call 911. As technology improves and industries advance, healthcare workers say they must too. I think it's really important that healthcare looks at changing technology and how can we adapt that to serve our patients and do what we need to do for the right thing for the patient in a timely manner.