

Q2 2013 ISSUES AND PROGRAMS WPGA-TV

CRIME: Crime continues to be a major problem, especially those of violent nature. Almost daily, there are reports of armed robberies, assault and battery, homicides and lesser crimes. When those crimes are committed, the stories are reported to make the public aware of the seriousness of the problem, and stress what crimes are likely to occur, and which are the most vulnerable location

EMPLOYMENT: The unemployment rate in middle Georgia does fluctuate depending on the time of year, as it does nationally. Monthly reports on the unemployment figures in middle Georgia inform workers and potential workers of the status of the situation. Additionally, a series of public service announcements partnering with Middle Georgia Help Wanted informs job seekers of available jobs, while encouraging employers to list their openings

HEALTH CARE: Many middle Georgians are uninformed about many health problems, some of them related to young people. This station airs announcements and guest interviews to make the public aware of available help, such as the Ronald McDonald House for families of hospitalized children.

ANIMAL CONTROL: Animal control continues to be a major problem in most communities in middle Georgia, even with the efforts of volunteers and the push for bigger and better animal shelters. This station does it's part in helping find homes for homeless animals, and keeping the public up to date on the status of the new shelters, which will be able to accommodate more animals for a longer period of time while new owners are found.

CONSOLIDATION: The approved consolidation of Macon and Bibb County hit a snag when the proposed election date for the first consolidated government was pushed back while the Justice Department investigated several aspects of the election. This station keeps the public up to date on this touchy issue through live guest appearances and continuous updates by the station's announcers.

EDUCATION: Bibb County schools have been in a state of turmoil in recent years, with a lack of educational progress by students, crime in schools, disarray in the school system's main offices. Stressing these problems and keeping the public updated on efforts to improve are this station's part in helping with the problem.

CRIME: Title Description Date Time Duration
Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reported on Mix in the Morning that the Macon police department has reacted to recent controversies surrounding the department by naming a new head of the Internal Affairs Division. Daniels said that Captain Terry Timely will take over from Jimmy Barbee, whose term was near completion, Barbee was reassigned to the department's criminal investigation division. The latest announcement comes after Macon City Council approved a new ordinance that reorganizes the internal affairs division and modifies several processes within the division.

4-1-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00
8:30 am total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Files released last week by the Macon Police Department's Internal Affairs division reveal that the police officer who resigned after a disciplinary review board recommended his termination, had received eight previous reprimands since joining the force in 2010. Gail Daniels reports that incidents such as this led to the reorganization of the Internal Affairs division. In her story, Daniels identified the police officer as Justin Fox, who resigned after an incident in which he handcuffed an 8-year boy for allegedly throwing items at a dog.

4-1-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00
8:30 am. Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports today that work has begun on the Thomas Jackson Juvenile Justice Center in Bibb County, and citizens can expect the multi-million dollar facility in operation by the summer of 2014. The new Juvenile Court building, which is named after Macon's first African-American judge, has two courtrooms and a total of more than 27,000 square feet of space. Money from the recently approved SPLOST will pay for the project.

4-1-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00
8:30 am. Total of four minutes

Mix in the Morning: The Georgia Bureau of Investigation has not yet completed its final report on the investigation into the shooting of Warner Robins resident Anthony Rawls. Some details of the investigation indicate that Rawls, who was shot to death by Warner Robins police officers during a gunfight, fired at least eight shots after he was instructed to cooperate with police. Rawls was shot to death on his front porch after members of his own family had called 911. He was a security officer at a middle Georgia prison facility. The officers involved in the shooting, placed on administrative leave after the incident, have been permitted to return to work.

4-1-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00

8:30 am. Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Jasmine Banks reports on Mix in the Morning that the body of a 26-year old woman was found Tuesday afternoon, quoting from a news release from Warner Robins captain of investigations John Holland. Police acted on a tip from a 911 caller about the body, which had visible injuries to the head. Banks said police would not release the woman's identity until relatives have been notified and a medical examination has been performed. The woman was last seen a day earlier, on Monday, driving a brown 2006 Ford Fusion. Police are also still looking for the vehicle, according to Banks' report.

4-3-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00

8:30 am. Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Following up on an earlier story regarding the Macon Police Department's Internal Affairs division, Gale Daniels reports this morning that Macon's internal auditor has released his findings on the internal affairs division, which is charged with handling complaints about conduct and holding internal investigations to insure procedures are followed. The audit showed a 52% increase in the number of allegations reported to Internal Affairs from April 2010 to April 2011. There was also an increase in the number of allegations of abuse of process and the use of force.

4-9-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00

8:30 am. Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports today that a overall crime for Macon and Bibb County for the first quarter of 2013, which just ended, is comparable to the same quarter of 2012. While reported incidents of crime in the city of Macon was down by 26, crimes in unincorporated Bibb County is up by 35 incidents. Daniels says in her report that in Macon, there has been an increase in burglaries and car thefts, with a slight drop in car break-ins. In both the city and the county, reports of rape have increased, as well as reports of robberies.

4-15-13 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00

8:30 am. Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports a crime of a different nature that residents must be aware of. The Macon Police department has arrested a woman and charged her with stealing the identities of blood plasma donors in an income tax fraud scheme. According to Daniels report on the story, citing documents filed in U.S. District court in Macon, 30-year old Bridgette Williams of Macon is charged with conspiracy and identity theft while working as an employee of BioMat USA in Macon. After illegally obtaining donor information, Williams handed the data to co-conspirators who then created fake W-2 forms to file fraudulent tax returns.

4-24-13 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00

8:30 am. Total of six minutes

Mix in the Morning: Macon Police department sergeant Chris Paul, who heads up Middle Georgia Crimestoppers, made his monthly appearance on Mix in the Morning to update the public on recent crimes, and how Crimetoppers helps to apprehend suspects with the offer of a cash incentive for anonymous tips that lead to capture. Crimestoppers works with all law enforcement agencies in middle Georgia in a consolidated effort to apprehend suspects.

4-26-13 7:30 to 7:45am

Total of ten minutes

Mix in the Morning: In a continuing effort to enhance the department's ability to stop crime, or apprehend suspects, the Macon Police department is installing new 800 MHz radios in 27 of its police units. Jamie Gaudet of the department's public information department made the announcement through a news release issued to local media, and reported today by Gail Daniels on her morning newscasts. The new emergency radio system was manufactured by Harris Corporation.

4-26-13 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00

8:30 am. Total of four minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports today that one of Macon's longtime crimefighters has retired. Daniels says that Macon police chief Mike Burns, who has been with the force since 1974, is retiring. Burns has been chief of police since 2005 when Rodney Monroe left for a similar position in another city. Burns has been on medical leave since mid-March, according to a news release from the department. Deputy chief Mike Carswell will serve as interim chief until December 31st, when the department will consolidate with the Bibb County sheriff's department

4-29-13 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00

8:30 am. Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: In efforts to report crimes of all natures, Mix in the Morning news anchor Gail Daniels reports this morning that a Bibb County grand jury has indicted a former Macon-Bibb County firefighter on child molestation charges involving a 4-year old girl. According to the indictment, filed in Bibb County Superior Court, 42-year old Jerald Lavel Giles is charged with aggravated sexual battery and child molestation stemming from his June, 2012 arrest. He was initially placed on administrative leave, then resigned from the department August, 2012.

5-1-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00

8:30 am. Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: New techniques in license plate recognition are being used in an experimental project by several middle Georgia law enforcement agencies. The systems automatically reads license plate numbers for hits such as stolen vehicle, suspended insurance and expired tag. Agencies in Houston, Dooly and Bibb counties and the cities of Byron and Macon are using the new technology. Both Byron and Macon police departments regularly 'work' I-75. Cameras mounted on police vehicles record the information from a tag, and that information is fed to a Georgia Crime Information Center Database. The ACLU is among agencies that oppose use of the technology.

5-13-13 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00
8:30 am. Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: The Warner Robins Law Enforcement Center is now open and fully operational, according to a story this morning by news anchor Gail Daniels. The facility is located at 100 Watson Boulevard and is open 24 hours a day to the public. Residents can also continue to call 911 for immediate police assistance and emergencies. Those with other police inquiries can visit the center or call the main number at 478-302-5378.

5-20-13 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00
8:30 am. Total of three minutes

Mix in the Morning: Crimes occur at just about everywhere, including in our schools. Gail Daniels reports this morning that a former Howard High School paraprofessional has been indicted in Bibb County Superior Court on sexual assault charges. 45-year old Ronald Bernard Smith is accused of fondling and kissing a male special needs student between September 7, 2009 and October 10, 2011. The indictment charges Smith with two counts of sexual assault against a person in custody, and also alleges Smith sodomized the student in January, 2011 at Smith's home. The student was 17 when the abuse began in 2009, the indictment says.

5-22-13 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00
8:30 am. Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Off the street!. Gail Daniels reports today that Forty people have been indicted in connection with a major drug ring in Houston County. One of the accused, identified as 37-year old Frank Fountain of Kathleen, is a former Eastman Regional Youth Detention Center officer. Daniels reports that all forty face a number of drug related charges. The indictments follow a three-month investigation by the Houston County Sheriff's office, Warner Robins Police and the Houston County DA's office.

5-23-13 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00
8:30 am. Total five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Middle Georgia Regional Crimestoppers director Sgt. Chris Paul of the Macon Police Department made his monthly appearance on Mix in the Morning to update the public on outstanding suspects who still being sought, and how the public can help anonymously by phoning Crimestoppers with information. The calls could result in cash rewards if the information helps apprehend a suspect.

5-24-13 7:35 to 7:45

Total ten minutes

Mix in the Morning: A Perry man wanted in connection with a shooting in Byron was arrested last Wednesday after police found drugs, weapons and nearly \$36,000 I cash at his residence. According to Gail Daniels, reporting this morning on Mix n the Morning, and quoting from a news release from the Perry police department, 30-tyear old Bryson D. Porter had an outstanding arrest warrant for aggravated assault in Peach County. He is being held in the Peach County jail on those charges, and still faces drug charges related to the Byron warrant.

6-10-13 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30

Total of four minutes

Mix in the Morning: Now that school is out, the Macon police department will be enforcing the city curfew in an effort to keep teenagers younger that 17 off the streets at night. According to Jami Gaudet, public information officer for the police department, research shows the crime rates tend to go up when students are out of school, and the crackdown is a proactive response to the expected rise in crime. According to Gail Daniels, who reported the story on Mix in the Morning, those under 17 who are picked up by police during curfew hours will be held at a designated place until a parent or guardian can pick them up. A warning will be issued for the first offense, and after that, parents or guardians are subject fo punishment determined by the city's Municipal Court.

6-14-13 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30 am

Total of six minutes

Mix in the Morning: Macon police Sgt. Chris Paul, who heads up Middle Georgia Crimestoppers, made his monthly appearance on the show to update the results of the Crimes toppers program in the apprehension of suspects wanted for various offenses. Crimestoppers solicits help from citizens who might have information a bout the wanted suspects. Paul pointed out that phone tips to the 800-number remain anonymous, and callers who provide information that leads to an arrest could be eligible for cash rewards up to \$1,000.

6.28.13

7:35 to 7:45 Total of ten minutes

EMPLOYMENT:

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports today that Macon City Council's Employee Development and Compensation Committee met yesterday, and during that meeting, the Human Resources staff recommended that Macon and Bibb County employees should have a 'soft freeze' on their pension plans when they join the new consolidated government next January. A 'soft freeze', according to Daniels' story, means that current employees would keep accruing benefits under their existing plans, though anyone hired after the new government is seated would start in a different pension system.

4-11-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30

Total time five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Quoting figures from the Georgia Department of Labor, Gail Daniels reported this morning that Georgia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dipped to 8.4 percent in March, the lowest rate since December, 2008. The rate was down two-tenths of a percentage point from the 8.6 reported in February and seven tenths of a percentage point from 9.1 in March a year ago. Daniels said the rate declined because of an increase in the number of jobs and fewer new layoffs. State Labor Commissioner Mark Butler said Georgia employers created 23,700 new jobs last month, one of the best job growth numbers in the month of March for more than a decade.

4-18-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30 am

Total time five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports today on Mix in the Morning that the Georgia Department of Labor is gearing up to help job seekers in middle Georgia with a two-day Job Readiness Kickoff on Tuesday, April 30th and Wednesday, May 1st in Macon. The kickoff will be held from noon to 6pm each day at Virginia College on Paul Walsh Drive. The kickoff will offer free resume writing and informational sessions to help the unemployed or under-employed market themselves for a new career. Representatives from a number of community resource agencies will be available to assist job seekers. Daniels gave the phone number of Latrenda Leaks at the Macon Career Center, 478-751-6164

4-22-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: The Georgia Department of Labor announced yesterday that metro Macon's unemployment rate declined to 8.5 percent in March, down five-tenths of a percentage point from 9.0 in February. The rate was 9.6 percent in March a year ago, and this month's rate in Macon metro compares to a seasonally adjusted statewide rate of 8.6 percent. Overall, the middle Georgia region, which includes Warner Robins, declined to 8.4 percent for March, down from the 8.8 in February.

4.25.13
total of three minutes

6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Mix in the Morning: The Georgia Department of Labor released the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rates today. Gail Daniels reports this morning that the rate is 8.3 percent for May, up one-tenth of a percentage point for April's 8.2, but down eight tenths of a percentage point from the 9.1 percent of May a year ago. Labor Commissioner Mark Butler says the increased rate is primarily because more jobseekers entered the labor force looking for work. The number of long-term unemployed workers rose for the first time in 12 months. The long-term unemployed, those out of work for 26 weeks or more, make up 44.2 percent of all unemployed in Georgia.

6-20-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am
Total of five minutes

HEALTH CARE:

Mix in the Morning: News anchor Gail Daniels reports today that members of Warner Robins City Council tabled two items at Monday's meeting. Council put a hold on making any decisions regarding a change to the healthcare plan for city employees. The changes include raising prescription costs for brand name drugs and increases to co-pays for emergency room and doctor visits. Council members said they need more time to study the proposal, and could vote on it at the next regular meeting

4-16-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am
Total of four minutes

Live appearances on Mix in the Morning:

Dr. Johnny Gayton of Eyesights Associates was a guest on the news/talk Mix in the Morning with Rick Knight and Gary Thigpen. Dr. Gayton, a nationally known and acclaimed ophthalmologist, talked about the advances that have been made in the field of cataract surgery, and fielded questions from callers who had questions concerning their situations. Dr. Gayton was on the show 4-8-13 from 7:30 to 8:30am

Total of forty minutes

Steven Rogers of TIMCO Aviation, which is sponsoring a fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House, was on Mix in the Morning from 8:30 to 9:00 to discuss the fundraiser, and discuss how the funds are used to provide lodging for families who have children in the local Children's Hospital. This allows families to be close to their children while living in an atmosphere more like their homes.

4.8.13
Total of 20 minutes

8:30 to 9:00 am

Truett Andrew of Paul Anderson Boys Home in Vidalia was on the show to talk about how the home, established by Olympic weightlifting champion Paul Anderson, provides a home, education, health care and parental supervision for orphaned or otherwise needy children. Andrews pointed out that although the home is in Vidalia, they accept applications from all over the state. He also stated that the home is constantly seeking sponsors from around the state to defray the cost of providing for the youth, who are enrolled at local public schools, and who have 'chores' at the home after school hours.

4-14-13 8:30 to 9:00 am

Total twentyminutes

Yasmine Wilson, a registered nurse with Rehobeth Dental Clinic was Was on Mix in the Morning to talk about the free dental clinic, and how those who can't afford dental care can qualify for the free services, which are funded by donations. The Dental Clinic is located in Dublin, Georgia, but serves all of middle Georgia, including Houston and Bibb counties.

4.16.13

8:30 to 9:00 am

Total twenty minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports today on the completion of a downtown project. The city of Macon and the Medical Center of Central Georgia will celebrate the completion of the New and Pine Streets Improvement Project with a ceremonial ribbon cutting on Tuesday May 7th at 10:00 am. The project includes new sidewalks, improved roads, handicapped ramps, a median planted with trees, designated loading zones and many other pedestrian friendly improvements, not only for patients of the hospital, but for others who frequent the area in downtown Macon. The Medical Center, the most prominent health care facility in middle Georgia, provided part of the funds for the project, along with money from a recent SP:LOST, and from the GDOT's transportation enhancement program. The completion on the projects provides easier access to the hospital and other downtown venues.

6-6-13 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: The Medical Center of Central Georgia, along with its community partners, invites women of central Georgia to participate in a series of events designed to increase personal wellness. The medical center will host the kickoff event, called the 2013 Women's Health & Maternity Fair, on Saturday May 18th. In addition to health screenings, seminars on "Developing Birth Plans and Birthing Options" and "GYN Surgery Options" will be held during the fair. In addition, trained staff members will be on hand to check car seats for proper installation and safety. The event is free to the public.

5-15-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports today on Mix in the Morning that the Bibb County School system has announced a wellness incentive. The schools in the system plan on adding at least 30 minutes of additional physical activity each school day. HealthMPowers will train elementary school staff and provide resources and equipment, using funding from the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia Foundation. The Alliance for a Healthier Generation will work with the school system's middle and high schools. The effort is paralleled by the Power Up for 30 initiative from the state departments of education and public health.

5-23-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of four minutes

Mix in the Morning live appearances: Dr. Johnny Gayton of Eyesight Associates made his monthly appearance to continue his discussions of eyecare, including the advancing techniques of laser surgery for cataracts. Dr. Gayton was on the air for two hours today, taking calls from listeners/viewers who had questions about various aspects of eye care and eye surgery.

6-4-13 from 6:30 to 8:30am

Total on air time, eighty minutes

Mix in the morning live appearance: Melody Faircloth of the Willow Tree, a health food and diet supplementary retail store. Melody talks about the value of natural health remedies and dietary supplements that enhance the body's overall health and immune system.

6-21-13 from 8:00 to 9:00 am

Total time, forty minutes

ANIMAL CONTROL:

Mix in the Morning: Plans for a new animal shelter were presented before the Bibb County Commission yesterday. Tevis Architects and Dunwoody/Beeland Architects have designed a facility to hold 140 animals with room for more. The shelter will be at the 48 hundred block of Fulton Mill Road, situated in a wooded setting with a dog park and walking trails. Construction of the 3 million dollar project, funded by the special purpose local option sales tax, is expected to begin this summer.

4-1-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of four minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports this morning that a Bibb County deputy shot and killed two pit bulls after they attacked a woman in south Bibb County on Thursday. Daniels quoted from a Bibb County sheriff's department news release that said the woman, who is believed to be in her 50s, was in her yard around 1:00 pm when her

neighbor's two pit bulls attacked her. A man at the victim's house fended off the dogs with a broom. The woman was taken to the Medical Center of Central Georgia with serious bite wounds to the head and neck. A deputy shot and killed both dogs after they charged him aggressively, the news release said. According to neighbors, the dogs were normally housed in a pen and had escaped the enclosure. The dogs' owners were not at home at the time of the incident.

5-31-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am
Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: After months of criticism, there is finally some movement on a new Bibb County Animal Welfare shelter. Gail Daniels reports that on Tuesday Bibb County Commissioners were informed by Len Hindsman, who oversees SPLOST projects, that there will be a groundbreaking ceremony June 14th for the new shelter, which is scheduled to be built on property located on Fulton Mill road in west bibb County.

6-5-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am
Total of three minutes

Mix in the Morning: Warner Robins Animal Control has received a \$7,500 spay and neuter grant from the Georgia Department of Agriculture. The Georgia Dog and Cat Sterilization Program is funded through dog and cat sterilization auto tag purchases along with donations that are tax deductible. Warner Robins Animal Control will use the grant to fund the spay or neuter procedure when an animal is adopted at the facility on the third Saturday of the month. The program begins June 15th.

6-12-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am
Total of four minutes

CONSOLIDATION:

Mix in the Morning: Candidates continue to announce for seats on the consolidated Macon-Bibb County Commission. Gail Daniels reports today that former Macon-Bibb County firefighter Paul Bronson has announced his intentions to qualify for District 2, becoming the fifth announced candidate for that seat. Others who have already announced for District 2 include two current Macon City Council members, Henry Ficklin and Larry Schlesinger, as well as Irving Martinez and Brandon Carlisle.

4-1-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am
Total of four minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gearing up for the implementation of the new Macon-Bibb County Commission next year, Macon City Council's Appropriations Committee voted 5-0 on Monday to authorize up to \$1.7 million to purchase software and associated computer hardware for the new government. According to Gail Daniels on Mix in the Morning,

assistant chief administrative officer for budget and planning Amanda Deaton says the city and county are expected to borrow money from the Georgia Municipal Association lease pool to help cover up-front costs. The task force recommended that the purchases be made as soon as possible. A vote is likely to come next Tuesday.

4-16-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning. On her newscasts this morning, Mix in the Morning news anchor Gail Daniels reports that Bibb County sheriff's officials presented an outline to county commissioners on Tuesday of how the office will look once it merges with the Macon Police Department in January, 2014. Cara Cotton, the sheriff's director of strategic management, said the county will still be divided into four main districts, each commanded by a major. Downtown Macon would be its own separate fifth district and will be supervised by a captain. Cotton said deputies and officers have already chosen new uniforms that will include a gray shirt and black pants. Deputies will also wear a patch similar to the current police patches.

4-17-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Potential candidates who have already announced their plans to seek office in the new Macon-Bibb County consolidated government can now make those plans official. Qualifying for nonpartisan offices begins today. Elections supervisor Jeanetta Watson said yesterday that county attorney Virgil Adams has instructed her to go ahead with plans for a July 16th nonpartisan election although the Justice Department still must approve State House bill 1514, which was approved by the Legislature in March.

4-22-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of four minutes

Mix in the Morning: There was a flurry of activity yesterday, the first day candidates could qualify for the nine District offices as the mayor's office in the new Macon-Bibb County government. A total of twenty candidates showed up to pay qualifying fees yesterday, including current Macon Mayor Robert Reichert, former mayor Jack Ellis and Bibb County commission vice-chairman Joe Allen, all of whom qualified for mayor. Other familiar names were also present, including Elaine Lucas, Henry Ficklin, Larry Schelsinger, Ed Defore, Bert Bivins and Charles Jones, all of whom are either in city or county government, or who have been in the past.

4-23-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning; It looks like all the flurry by candidates to get themselves qualified for offices in the new Macon-Bibb County government will have to wait.

County attorney Virgil Adams said yesterday that there likely won't be any elections on July 16th as originally scheduled. Adams said he has received a letter from the Department of Justice saying the agency needs more information on proposed changes in school board elections before approving elections. That means elections will now be delayed, possibly until November.

5-29-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am
Total of four minutes

Mix in the Morning: A pension plan for new employees of the consolidated Macon-Bibb County government was approved Wednesday by the Human Resources Committee of the city-county Consolidation Transition Task Force. Current employees of the city and county who are members of the pension plans of Macon or Bibb County will stay within their current plans with no changes to their benefits. Fire and police retirees will also stay on their current plans. After January 1, 2014, new employees would enter a retirement plan similar to the one currently used by Bibb County. The plan must be approved by the full consolidation task force

6-6-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am
Total of four minutes

EDUCATION:

Mix in the Morning: During Monday night's Bibb County Board of Education meeting, acting superintendent Susanne Griffin-Ziebart told board members they may have to consider staff reductions for the next school year and possibly closure of some schools the following year. Gail Daniels reports this morning that Griffin-Ziebart said planning for the next budget was behind schedule and the board may have to make multimillions of dollars in reductions. She also presented a new estimation of a \$8.8 million shortfall for the next budget year and nearly double that amount for the following year.

4-9-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am
Total of four minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports today that about 60 people attended a community forum Tuesday night at Northway Church on Zebulon Road to hear about a planned charter school being started by former Westside principal Laura Perkins and Esterine Stokes, who was a graduation coach at the school. They hope to open the school in August, 2014. The Academy for Classical Educations will serve between 400 and 600 sixth through eighth grade students. A grade would then be added every year until it reaches twelve grades. The school will need approval from the Bibb County Board of Education or the state.

4-10-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30am

Total of four minutes

Mix in the Morning: More financial woes for the Bibb County Board of Education. Gail Daniels reports this morning that the system will be losing an additional \$3 million. That's on top of the \$15.6 deficit they discussed just last week. Interim CFO Sharon Roberts said the newest projections would leave the system's financial reserves millions of dollars below zero if action isn't taken. Options being proposed range from cutting travel and cellphone, to furloughs, layoffs and tax increases. Administrators also drafted plans for reducing the number of assistant principals, counselors and librarians, as well as cutting out one deputy superintendent's position.

4-17-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports this morning that the Bibb County Board of Education is running out of time to name an interim superintendent. Daniels says the board has until May first to name an interim superintendent or they could be in violation of state law, according to the district's attorney Randy Howard. Susanne Griffin-Ziebert was appointed as acting superintendent when Romaine Dallemand's contract was bought out in a decision that left most taxpayers up in arms. Her term expires in May. So far, 29 people have applied for the interim position. Suggestions for picking the top candidate will be taken this week and the board plans to vote in the procedure at their meeting next Thursday.

4.9.13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: In efforts to reduce the school system's budget shortfall, Bibb County Board of Education members voted 6-2 Thursday night to approve anticipated layoffs, cuts and a tax increase. The plan calls for layoffs of 74 teachers, 13 non-teaching staff and 14 positions from central office positions. Interim Chief financial Officer Sharon Roberts said administrators also favor a recommendation that includes a 0.48 mill tax increase which would raise about \$4 million. The system would need to use about \$3.4 million from its reserves to close a projected \$18.7 million shortfall. Other tax increase proposals were discussed, including one of 1.0 mill.

4-26-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: On her Mix in the Morning news reports today, news anchor Gail Daniels reports that the Bibb County School System has passed accreditation, but examiners say the system needs special monitoring to make sure the system's leadership gets proper attention. The system's worst score was in governance and leadership. During a called board meeting on Wednesday, lead evaluator Stephen Oborn of AdvancED Quality Assurance, gave board

members its preliminary findings and highlighted problem areas such as poor communication with parents and an inability to bring together stakeholders. He said the board also needs to work to promote student performance. The system has two years to show progress toward solving its problems.

5-2-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am
Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports this morning that PeachCounty schools received a recommendation for re-accreditation from a national review team on Wednesday. The district received an average score of 2.7 out of 4 points, which according to Cheryl Allread, lead evaluator with AdvancED Quality Assurance review team, is extremely strong. The team will recommend the district be accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. SACS will make that decision in June.

5-2-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, *,00 and 8:30 am
Total of three minutes

Mix in the Morning: Despite the controversy surrounding it, the Bibb County Board of Education has voted 7-1 to support the Macon Promise Neighborhood initiative. The board voted after Mercer University professor Peter Brown, one of the initiative's leaders, promised that last year's mistakes would not be repeated. After an investigation by the Macon Telegraph last year, it was learned that Bibb County staff members tripled the commitment to the initiative that the school board had approved last summer.

5-3-13 at 6;30, 7:00, 7;30, 8:00 and 8:30 am
Total three minutes

Mix in the Morning: The results of the new College and Career Ready Performance index for schools in middle Georgia have been released. Both the highest and lowest scores went to schools in the Houston County system. Quail Run Elementary and Lake Joy Primary schools earned nearly perfect scores on 99.1, while Houston County's alternative school, known as the Houston County Crossroads Center, scored just 33.7. Eight Bibb County schools, including Southwest and Westside high schools, scored under 50. Each of Bibb County's district-wide scores fell below state averages, with a high school average of just over 55, or 17.5 points below the state high school average. The scores are determined mainly by students performance on standardized tests taken during the previous year.

5-8-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am
Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: The struggling Bibb County school board met Tuesday and most board members oppose a tax increase as a means of solving the system's \$18.7 million budget shortfall. Members Lester Miller, Thelma Dillard, Lynn Farmer, Susan Sipe and Jason Downey

said they would not vote for a tax increase this year. Board members did approve a reduction in force for the system's teachers. Teacher who weren't notified today that they could be losing their jobs will automatically get new contracts.

5-15-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of three minutes

Mix in the Morning: There's a bit of good news this morning in the Bibb County School system, amid months of turmoil. A Bibb County Elementary school principal is receiving a statewide honor. Amy Duke, principal at Springdale Elementary School, was recommended by colleagues to receive Georgia's National distinguished Principal award. She learned the good news during a staff meeting Wednesday afternoon. The award honors principals who set high standards for instruction, student achievement, character, and climate for students, families and staff. Duke will receive her award in Washington from the U.S. Secretary of Education

5-16-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports today that the Bibb County School Board has finalized a contract with interim Superintendent Steve Smith, who is expected to begin work on June first. His contract will run through June, 2014, during which time the board will seek a permanent superintendent. Smith reportedly will be paid \$198,000 per the year, with benefits including a car allowance, retirement payments and insurance.

5-22-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total time two minutes

Mix in the Morning: Houston County Schools will be receiving \$1.6 million from the Houston County-based organization Americans for Schools. The organization seeks to support educational needs in the classroom. The money will be used to purchase STRIDE Academy software, a web-based program that gives teachers and students online games, videos and other educational tools that are aligned with each classroom's curriculum.

5-22-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of three minutes

Mix in the Morning: The Macon Promise Neighborhood Initiative learned Thursday that the government will not be funding new grants this year. The U.S. Department of Education will only honor commitments it has already made. More than 20 community groups had been working together on the initiative and had planned on applying for another grant this summer to help the Unionville and Tindall Heights neighborhoods. A spokesman for Macon Promise

Neighborhood said work will continue regardless of the lack of government funding, and further said the group may seek grants elsewhere.

5-24-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of four minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports this morning that a Houston County teacher is in the running for a Grammy. Faye Boyer is one of over 200 quarterfinalists for the first-ever Music Educator award, which recognizes kindergarten through college educators who have made a lasting contribution to music education. Boyer was nominated by one of her students. The next round of finalists will be announced in August and the winner will be announced live at th 2014 Grammy Awards. The winner will receive a \$10.000 grant.

5-29-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 98:00 and 8;30 am

Total of four minutes

Mix in the Morning: Interim Bibb County School Superintendent Steve Smith was sworn into office Monday, with about 60 well-wishers in attendance at the ceremony. Smith called his new role a calling and said he plns to live up to the expectations of the community and the school board. Smith began his career in bibb County as a teacher and jspent 18 years here before moving on. In 2012 he retired as superintendent of schools in Lowndes County, Georgia. Smith said he will be meeting with school board members this week and teachers, parents and community members in th coming weeks.

6-4-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

total of four minutes

Mix in the Morning: Seeking more input from the public in efforts to improve the quality of education and enhance the system's image, the Bibb County Board of Education will hold five public hearings to discuss planned changes to several elementary schools, as well as discussing next year's budget. Gail Daniels reports this morning that the first of those meetings will be held tonight at Jones Elementary School on Alandale Drive. The meeting begins at 6:30, Daniels says.

6-5-13 at 6;30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am

Total of three minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels says this morning that Bibb County School district Interim Superintendent Steve Smith is already living up to his promise of involving the community in the school system's progress. Smith is inviting school district employees, students, parents, business leaders and community leaders to be a part of two focus groups and listening sessions, to be held next week in the auditorium at Central High School. The sessions will allow Dr. Smith to speak directly with educations, students and community leaders at one time about what they believe the district's main priorities for improvement should be over the next year.

6-12-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 and 8:30 am
Total of five minutes

Mix in the Morning: Gail Daniels reports this morning on an educational opportunity. Daniels says those interested in enrolling in aircraft structural technology programs at Middle Georgia State College are encouraged to attend an open house from 6:30 to 8:30 pm on July 9th at the Eastman campus. According to Daniels, the campus has a 96 percent job placement rate for graduates in the aircraft structural technology field. Fall classes begin August 19th.

6-17-13 at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8;00 and 8:30 am
Total of two minutes