FCC QUARTERLY REPORT:
ISSUES AND PROGRAMS REPORT

For WTVS DETROIT PUBLIC TELEVISION

FOR THE PERIOD OF:
April 1st, 2019 through June 30th, 2019
Prepared: June 18, 2019

Introduction

In an effort to be responsive to the issues of current concern in the Detroit/Metro community, WTVS has chosen to broadcast programming reflective of these issues, with the intention of creating greater awareness of these concerns among our viewers.

Community Issues Addressed This Quarter:

Biography/History
Culture/Arts
Education
Health/Health Care
Science/Nature
Leadership/Public Policy
### **BIOGRAPHY/HISTORY**

**Issue:**

**Series Title:** Reconstruction: America After the Civil War (Episode 101 & 102)

**Produced by:** McGee Media, LLC

**Type:** Documentary

**Dates Aired:**
- 4/09/2019 (#101) 9pm 56.1 120 minutes
- 4/16/2019 (#102) 9pm 56.1 120 minutes

**Series Description:**
Join Henry Louis Gates, Jr. for this exploration of the transformative years following the Civil War, when the nation struggled to rebuild itself in the face of profound loss, massive destruction and revolutionary social change.

**Episode Descriptions:**

**Episode #101** Experience the aftermath of the Civil War - a bewildering, exhilarating and terrifying time. For African Americans, despite their hard-won freedom, support for their social, economic and political gains did not last.

**Episode #102** Explore the rise of Jim Crow and the undermining of Reconstruction's legal and political legacy, and see how African Americans fought back using artistic expression to put forward a "New Negro" for a new century.

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**Issue:**

**Program Title:** The Last Survivors

**Series Title:** Frontline (Episode 3711)

**Produced by:** Minnow Films

**Type:** Documentary

**Dates Aired:** 4/30/2019 10:00pm 56.1 60 minutes

**Description:** A landmark documentary about some of the last survivors of the Holocaust. Only children at the time, these now elderly survivors reflect on how the trauma of the Holocaust has affected the rest of their lives.
### Issue: BIOGRAPHY/HISTORY

**Program Title:** Egypt’s Darkest Hour  
**Series Title:** Secrets of the Dead (Episode 1704)  
**Produced by:** Blakeway Productions, Ltd.  
**Type:** Documentary  
**Dates Aired:** 4/3/2019 10pm 56.1 60 minutes

**Description:** Follow a team of archaeologists as they examine a rare mass grave dating to the collapse of ancient Egypt's Old Kingdom, when political infighting and a changing climate brought down a dynasty in a moment of crisis and catastrophe.

### Issue: BIOGRAPHY/HISTORY

**Program Title:** Great War  
**Series Title:** American Experience (Episode 2905, 2906 and 2907)  
**Produced by:** Insignia Films  
**Type:** Documentary  
**Dates Aired:** 5/6/2019 (#2905) 10pm 56.1 120 minutes  
5/13/2019 (#2906) 10pm 56.1 120 minutes  
5/20/2019 (#2907) 10pm 56.1 120 minutes

**Description:** Episode 2905: Explore America's tortured, nearly three-year journey to war. Reports of German atrocities and submarine attacks on American ships erode neutrality, finally leading to Wilson's proclamation that "the world must be made safe for democracy."

   Episode 2906: Follow America’s entry into the war as patriotism sweeps the nation, stifling free speech and dissent. A diverse group of men becomes the country’s first mass conscripted army, while women continue to demand the vote.

   Episode 2907: Discover how the violent and bloody conflict transformed the nation forever, as America steps onto the world stage for the first time. But while many heralded the peace, others worried about democracy at home.
Issue: BIOGRAPHY/HISTORY
Program Title: Amelia Earhart
Series Title: American Experience
Produced by: Nancy Porter Productions
Type: Documentary
Dates Aired: 5/7/2019 9pm 56.1 60 minutes

Description: The first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic, Amelia Earhart was America's "Lady Lindy." What the public didn't know was the cost of her courage. The record-breaking flights, races, interviews, speeches and promotional commitments pushed her to the point of exhaustion. This beautiful, accomplished woman would disappear without a trace on the eve of her 40th birthday.

Issue: BIOGRAPHY/HISTORY
Program Title: Tiananmen: Seven Weeks That Changed The World
Produced by: Alleycats TV
Type: Documentary
Dates Aired: 6/25/2019 9pm 56.1 120 minutes

Description: Uncover the true story of the seven-week period that changed China forever. On June 4, 1989, a violent and bloody pro-democracy demonstration ended, leaving thousands dead and laying the foundation for China's future.
*****ARTS/CULTURE*****

Issue: ARTS/CULTURE
Program Title: Sit Down Interview with Jeffery Seller
Series Title: One Detroit (Episode 131)
Produced By: WTVS / Detroit Public Television
Type: Interview
Dates Aired: 4/18/2019 7:30pm 56.1 30 minutes

Description: A sit down with Jeffrey Seller, producer of the Broadway smash 'Hamilton'. He talks about the impact of the founding fathers story and his investment in the Detroit arts. The musical Hamilton's run in Detroit is coming to an end and it's been a thrill for theater fans to see one of the most transformative shows on Broadway during its stay at the Fisher. Well one of the producers Jeffrey Sellers is from metro Detroit. He sat down with Bridge magazine's Chastity Pratt for a conversation on how this art form has affected the way people take in U.S. history. Plus Jeffrey's support of the Arts here in Detroit. Jeffrey Sellers, Welcome home. Thank you. I love being here. You have this show with the diverse cast. People of color. Talk a little bit about how that affects the audience how that affects the artistry our understanding of history. Hamilton is so organically correct in that it was always obvious to us that George Washington would be played by an African-American man that Thomas Jefferson would be a man of color. What is so satisfying to me is that we have created a show that is about America yesterday. Told by America today because that enables every audience member white, black, brown, whatever to look up on that stage and say that's my story.

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It's interesting that. You would bring Hamilton here right now because at the African-American history museum right now there's that the Paradox of Liberty Exhibit and it's been problematic because it deals with Jefferson. Are we dealing with history in a different way by bringing in these you know these characters of Color or are we just making it more accessible.

I think that Hamilton is absolutely exploring the possibility of what America can be while it's simultaneously showing us. In theatrical ironic terms what it was not. So we have a black man playing Thomas Jefferson who was a slave who was a slave holder. The fact that he wasn't black is less interesting to me than the fact that we have a black man playing him and he was a slave holder. And that is powerful and that is complicated. And that may create cognitive dissonance for white audience members who don't think he should be played by a black man. And for black audiences to say how could a black man portray that slave holder and I think that we are in a moment where we are thinking about
the sins of our past the sins of slavery the conversation about reparations is starting to enter our dialogue and to the degree that Hamilton is part of that dialogue. I am happy. Hamilton can't tell every story. It can't explore every issue and it touches on it but it doesn't do a deep dive in it. And now the question is what vehicles can we use to take that deep dive into America's sin. It's a complicated cognitive experience right. And kids love it because of the music.

Let's talk about kids. What kind of effect are you looking for with your younger audience.

Kids love it because of the music. Kids love it because of the dancing. Kids love it. And kids of color love it because they feel like OK I'm part of the story too. That's me up there. I am part of the American story. And I think that's very very valuable.

On the topic of kids we can't let you get out of here without talking about that huge donation to Mosaic a program that serves children mostly African-American children of color a million dollars. The biggest donation to non-profit like this we've seen.

Why do you do it? Why this organization? I know from my own experience the power of theater to transform a life the work that Mosaic is doing with these kids is it's like saving the world.

Well that's gonna do it for one Detroit. We had a great time with the folks here.

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**Issue:** ARTS/CULTURE

**Program Title:** Megan Hilty in Concert

**Series Title:** Live from Lincoln Center (Episode 4404)

**Produced by:** Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc.

**Type:** Performance

**Dates Aired:** 5/24/2019 10:00pm 56.1 60 minutes

**Description:** With her operatic range and sunny charm, Tony-nominated Megan Hilty epitomizes musical stardom. After making her Broadway debut in "Wicked" opposite Idina Menzel, Hilty went on to star in "9 to 5" and TV's hit musical drama "Smash." The multifaceted artist shows off her immense talents and infectious charisma with a versatile set of musical theater favorites and classic standards.
Issue: ARTS/CULTURE
Program Title: Garry Winogrand
Series Title: American Masters (Episode 3108)
Produced by: Pieshake Pictures; WNET
Type: Documentary
Dates Aired: 4/19/2019 10pm 56.1 90 minutes
Description: Discover the life and work of Garry Winogrand, the epic storyteller in pictures who harnessed the serendipity of the streets to capture the American 1960s-70s. His "snapshot aesthetic" is now the universal language of contemporary image making.

Issue: ARTS/CULTURE
Program Title: Aida
Series Title: Great Performances at the Met (Episode 1301)
Produced by: Metropolitan Opera Association
Type: Performance
Dates Aired: 4/21/2019 2pm 56.1 180 minutes
Description: Season 13 of Great Performances at the Met begins with Verdi's grandest of grand operas, Aida. Conducted by Nicola Luisotti, the opera stars vocal powerhouses Anna Netrebko in the title role and Anita Rachvelishvili as Amneris as they go toe to toe in this classic love story featuring a number of Verdi's most celebrated arias. Aleksandrs Antonenko, Dmitry Belosselskiy and Ryan Speedo Green round out the cast.
Issue: ARTS/CULTURE
Program Title: Emilio and Gloria Estefan: The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize...Popular Song
Produced By: WETA; Bounce, Library of Congress
Type: Event Coverage
Dates Aired: 5/3/2019  10pm  56.1  90 minutes

Description: An all-star tribute to Emilio and Gloria Estefan, the 2019 recipients of the Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song and the first married couple or musicians-songwriters of Hispanic descent to receive the honor.

Issue: ARTS/CULTURE
Program Title: Robert Shaw
Series Title: American Masters (Episode 3207)
Produced By: KWorks, LLC; WNET
Type: Documentary
Dates Aired: 6/21/2019  10pm  56.1  60 minutes

Description: Trace the journey of one of the greatest choral music conductors in the world. With no formal training, Robert Shaw achieved early success in popular music and later became legendary for his interpretations of classical music's choral masterpieces.

Issue: ARTS/CULTURE
Program Title: Terrence McNally
Series Title: American Masters (Episode 3206)
Produced By: Floating World Pictures
Type: Documentary
Dates Aired: 6/21/2019  11pm  56.1  90 minutes

Description: Explore four-time Tony-winning playwright Terrence McNally's six groundbreaking decades in theater. The film delves into McNally's pursuit of love and inspiration, LGBTQ activism, triumph over addiction and the power of the arts to transform society.
Issue: ARTS/CULTURE
Program Title: Adriana Lecouvreur
Series Title: Great Performances at the Met (Episode 1306)
Produced By: Metropolitan Opera Association
Type: Performance
Dates Aired: 6/23/2019 2pm 56.1 150 minutes

Description: Watch Cilea’s classic opera starring Anna Netrebko in the title role of the real-life French actress who dazzled 18th-century audiences with her on-and-offstage passion, with Piotr Beczała as her lover, Maurizio.
### Issue: EDUCATION

**Program Title:** One Small Step  
**Series Title:** Ready Jet Go  
**Produced by:** Wind Dancer Films  
**Type:** Animated Children’s Program  
**Dates Aired:** 6/17/2019 7am 56.1 60 minutes

**Description:** In this special, Jet and his Boxwood Terrace friends learn all about Neil Armstrong and the Apollo Space Program as they embark on a sleepover on the Moon.

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### Issue: EDUCATION

**Program Title:** Spectrum: A Story of the Mind  
**Produced by:** Nanuq Original  
**Type:** Documentary  
**Dates Aired:** 4/01/2019 11pm 56.1 30 minutes

**Description:** Imagine a world where words taste and thoughts feel, where sounds swell with color and leaves on trees change tones visible to the naked eye, where eye contact with another can cause physical pain. This world, both beautiful and overwhelming, exists for those in the film "Spectrum: A Story of the Mind." The first documentary to explore autism as sensory-based experiences, presenting the positive advantages and difficulties of perceiving the world differently. Featuring Dr. Temple Grandin, the film highlights the need for research on sensory issues. The story is told through a series of character-driven portraits from a diverse group of people on the autism spectrum. While poet and author Tito Mukhopadhyay is nonverbal, he articulates his experiences through his writing. Artist Judy Endow uses painting to express her shifting and often chaotic visual perception. Aikido artist Nick Walker finds an unexpected beauty in the art of fluid movement and discovers the advantage of his perception through martial arts. "Spectrum" challenges current views of autism as a social disorder and inspires the viewer to empathize with autistic perceptions.
Issue: EDUCATION
Program Title: Dyslexia
Series Title: PBS Newshour (Episode 12516)
Producer: WETA
Type: Live News
Date Aired: 4/29/2019 6pm 56.1 Segment 8mins 35 secs

Description: Fewer than 40 percent of fourth and eighth grade students nationwide are proficient readers. Now, led by parents of children with dyslexia, a learning disability that makes reading and spelling difficult, some states are trying to change how reading is taught. Special correspondent Lisa Stark reports from Arkansas, where a group of determined advocates have upended traditional reading instruction.

Issue: EDUCATION
Program Title: Teacher Strikes and Walk outs
Series Title: PBS Newshour (Episode 12510)
Producer: WETA
Type: Live News
Date Aired: 4/19/2019 6pm 56.1 Segment 8 mins 56 secs

Description: New teacher strikes and walkouts are making headlines this year, but the issues they are raising are familiar. Educators are especially concerned about pay, school resources, growing responsibilities, testing policies and the role of charter schools. John Yang talks to two of the 2016 Teachers of the Year, Nate Bowling and Shawn Sheehan, about challenges and frustrations facing their profession.
Description: Food pantries are appearing more frequently in a surprising type of location: colleges and universities. More than 700 educational institutions belong to a national nonprofit aiming to alleviate food insecurity among college students. From PBS station WTTW in Chicago, Brandis Friedman reports on how City Colleges and the Greater Chicago Food Depository are providing nutrition along with knowledge.
HEALTH/HEALTH CARE

Issue: HEALTH/HEALTH CARE
Program Title: The Abortion Divide
Series Title: Frontline (Episode 3708)
Producer: Mark Obenhaus Films, Inc.
Type: Documentary
Dates Aired: 4/23/2019 10pm 56.1 60 minutes

Description: Inside the fight over abortion through the stories of women struggling with unplanned pregnancies. Drawing on a landmark FRONTLINE film from the 1980s, a look at both sides of the abortion divide in a community still embroiled in the conflict.

Issue: HEALTH/HEALTH CARE
Program Title: The Providers
Series Title: Independent Lens (Episode 2014)
Producer: Stray Pony Productions
Type: Documentary
Dates Aired: 4/8/2019 10pm 56.1 90 minutes

Description: Follow three "country doctors" in rural New Mexico -- the site of a physician shortage and an opioid epidemic -- who work at clinics that offer care for all, regardless of ability to pay.

Issue: HEALTH/HEALTH CARE
Program Title: HIV / AIDS
Series Title: Primary Care with Dr. Lonnie Joe (Episode 402)
Producer: OurHealth Media Network, Inc.
Type: Interview
Dates Aired: 5/12/2019 1pm 56.1 30 minutes

Description: Despite the fact stories about HIV/AIDS no longer dominate local and national news coverage there is still an epidemic in this country and African-Americans are being hit the hardest. Joining Dr. Lonnie Joe to talk about HIV/AIDS in the 21st century and its affect on the African-American community is Dr. Paul Benson. Dr. Benson is a HIV specialists and the Medical Director at Be Well Medical Center.
Issue: HEALTH/HEALTH CARE 
Program Title: Alzheimer’s Caregivers 
Series Title: Primary Care with Dr. Lonnie Joe (Episode 403) 
Producer: OurHealth Media Network, Inc. 
Type: Interview 
Date Aired: 5/19/2019 1pm 56.1 30 minutes 

Description: Caring for someone with Alzheimer’s is hard and it’s particularly hard if you are African-American. Black caregivers compared to White caregivers spend more hours caregiving and provide care to more than one family member. By 2030, the number of African Americans at risk for Alzheimer’s is expected to double which will leave many caregivers unprepared to deal with the oncoming tsunami. Dr. Paula Duren, the founder and president of Universal Dementia Caregivers joins Dr. Joe to provide information and insight to caregivers.

Issue: HEALTH/HEALTH CARE 
Program Title: Super Path to Super Duper Better 
Series Title: PBS Newshour (Episode 12498) 
Producer: WETA 
Type: Live News 
Dates Aired: 4/3/2019 6pm 56.1 Segment 8mins 23 secs 

Description: Few scenarios are harder to witness than the suffering of a seriously ill child. For kids with life-threatening diseases, survival often requires procedures that are painful and scary. But a Washington nonprofit is encouraging kids to be active in their own care by rewarding them for enduring their treatment. Paul Solman reports on Hope for Henry’s "Super Path to Super Duper Better" program.
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Description: In our news wrap Tuesday, New York City declared a public health emergency over a growing measles outbreak. City officials have confirmed 285 cases of the disease in Brooklyn and Queens since September, mostly among members of the Orthodox Jewish community. Also, President Trump insisted he does not plan to reinstate the policy of separating migrant children from parents at the U.S.-Mexico border.
Issue: SCIENCE/NATURE
Program Title: The Telescope (Episode 101)
The Airplane (Episode 102)
The Robot (Episode 103)
The Car (Episode 104)
The Rocket (Episode 105)
The Smartphone (Episode 106)
Series Title: Breakthrough: The Ideas that Changed the World
Producer: Bigger Bang Communications LTD
Type: Documentary
Date Aired:
  4/17/2019 (Episode 101) 10pm  56.1  60 minutes
  4/24/2019 (Episode 102) 10pm  56.1  60 minutes
  5/01/2019 (Episode 103) 10pm  56.1  60 minutes
  5/08/2019 (Episode 104) 10pm  56.1  60 minutes
  5/15/2019 (Episode 105) 10pm  56.1  60 minutes
  5/22/2019 (Episode 106) 10pm  56.1  60 minutes

Series Description: "Breakthrough" will inform and encourage viewers with hopeful news of important health-related developments, and provide regular updates as research in these various fields progresses. This weekly magazine series in words and images that are clear and understandable, and makes them compelling by telling the human stories of patients and their families. Hosted by veteran television journalist Ron Hendren, this series covers innovative pharmaceuticals, pioneering surgical procedures and breakthroughs in preventive care - and shows how they are making a difference in patient's lives.

**Episode 101** - Meet the brilliant minds throughout history, from Galileo to Edwin Hubble, responsible for creating the telescope. Today, their invention allows humanity to reach the furthest limits of seeing -- 13 billion light-years out.

**Episode 102** - Take to the sky with the dreamers whose work gave humans the ability to fly. From Leonardo da Vinci's "flying machines" to the modern commercial plane, without these inventions, we may have never left the ground.

Episode 103 - Learn how robots were first conceptualized in ancient Rome and see how their use has evolved over the centuries, from the calculator to the Roomba. Then, take a sneak peek at what future robots will be able to do.
Episode 104 - Go for a ride through the 9,000-year history of the car, from its roots in dogsleds to Henry Ford's affordable and assembly line-built Model T, and meet the scientists working on the next generation of self-driving automobiles.

Episode 105 - Learn the explosive history of the rocket, from its origin in ancient China, to its use as a weapon of war, to how adding hydrogen allowed it to carry astronauts all the way to the moon.

Episode 106 - Dial in to the fascinating history of the smartphone, from its roots in Morse Code to 2007, when Apple unveiled the first-ever iPhone. Plus, see how the next generation of smartphones will allow us to communicate through them just by thinking.

Issue: SCIENCE/NATURE
Program Title: PFAS: Our Forever Chemicals
Episode Title: Great Lakes Now

Producer: WTVS / Detroit Public Television
Type: Science
Date Aired: 3/28/2019 9pm 56.1 30 minutes

Description: It’s a curious acronym -- PFAS -- and it stands for a family of chemicals that’s in most homes and being detected in an increasing number of people’s water systems in Michigan and other states and provinces. Short for per- or polyfluoroalkyl, these industrial chemicals have been linked to fertility issues, high cholesterol, thyroid and liver problems, and certain cancers. And from where they’re used in our waterproof clothing, non-stick cookware, food packaging, and industrial waste, they’ve moved into our home water supplies, our wells, and our communities water systems. They’ve also been detected in the Great Lakes. Once they’re in people’s systems and the environment, they stay there for a long time. Research is only beginning to determine the health effects and what, if any, treatment there might be. What can people do to protect themselves and their families and at what cost?
In the new half-hour program called “The Forever Chemicals,” Detroit Public Television’s Great Lakes Now team travels around Michigan talking to water experts, health professionals, politicians and, of course, residents with PFAS in their home water supplies. By exploring how the problem emerged in two communities, this program also helps explain what affected citizens are doing to get answer to their questions and hold polluters and politicians accountable.
With reporting powered by a partnership with MLives award-winning journalists, the Great Lakes Now special is relevant to any community with questions about the safety and cost of its water.

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Description: There's no place on Earth like it. Cleopatra attributed her beauty to its secrets. King Herod built one of the world's first health spas on its shores. And as the biblical story goes, "rocks and fire falling from the sky" buried Sodom and Gomorrah and the sea became "the sea of salt" -- The Dead Sea. Now this wonder of the world is dying. Since 1976, its level has declined by more than sixty-five feet. Its coastline is pockmarked with thousands of sinkholes. Can the Dead Sea be saved? After more than a decade of research and debate, scientists, engineers and political leaders have come up with a daring plan, one that could not only save the sea but help bring stability to a region rife with conflict. NOVA follows this unprecedented endeavor - perhaps the world's largest water chemistry experiment ever - as scientists and engineers race to save the Dead Sea and help bring water to one of the driest regions on Earth.

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Description: The Nile is the world's longest river. From elephants and leopards to extreme kayakers and ancient wonders, its great length provides a lifeline for Africa's wildest beasts and for some of the world's most incredible cultures.
**Issue:** SCIENCE/NATURE

**Program Title:** When Whales Walked: Journeys in Deep Time  
**Producer:** Shining Red Productions, Inc.  
**Type:** Documentary  
**Dates Aired:** 6/19/2019  9pm  56.1  120 minutes

**Description:** Meet the ancient ancestors of four iconic creatures: crocodiles, birds, whales and elephants. Join top scientists on a global adventure as they follow clues from the fossil record and use 21st century technology to make exciting new discoveries.

They are the most iconic animals on Planet Earth—whales and birds of prey, ferocious crocodiles and magnificent elephants. To see them is to marvel—and to ask a surprisingly challenging question: Where did these amazing creatures come from? When Whales Walked: Journeys in Deep Time takes us on a global adventure to find the answer. Starting today, with awe-inspiring animals from Vancouver to Madagascar, we travel millions of years into the past to unravel their ancient stories. Each of these iconic creatures has an extraordinary lineage—a story full of twists and turns, punctuated by dramatic events in Earth’s history. Along the way we’ll meet an extraordinary cast of ancient characters, from tiny elephants to crocs that would dwarf any reptile alive today to a whale ancestor that walked on four legs.

**Issue:** SCIENCE/NATURE

**Program Title:** Inside the Megafire  
**Series Title:** Nova (Episode 4608)  
**Producer:** WGBH Educational Foundation  
**Type:** Documentary  
**Dates Aired:** 5/8/2019  9pm  56.1  60 minutes

**Description:** From the front line of the Camp fire, the deadliest wildfire in California history, NOVA tells the stories of residents who had to flee for their lives during the 2018 fire season. Scientists racing to understand what’s behind the rise of record-breaking megafires across the American West take to the forest, and even a fire lab, in search of answers. They investigate how forestry practices, climate change, and the physics of fire itself play a role in the dramatic increase in wildfires in recent decades.
Hi, there, and welcome to One Detroit. I'm Christy McDonald, we're at Common Pub in Midtown and we have a lot coming up for you this week. I have a one-on-one interview with Michigan's Attorney General Dana Nessel. We talk about a number of things, including challenging the Federal government, the state's investigation of the Catholic church, her plans in Flint, and tracking down John Engler from MSU for an interview. Plus Nolan Finley has the story of Abner Hines. After serving forty-five years behind bars, Governor Rick Snyder commuted his sentence. You'll hear about his life in prison, why he's home, and how he says he changed. And we'll catch up with both Nolan and Stephen Henderson in just a few minutes, that's all coming up. But we're going to start with my conversation with Attorney General Dana Nessel. I went to her offices in Lansing two weeks ago for a wide-ranging interview. You've seen the AG's office in the headlines for her decision that the Line 5 tunnel's unconstitutional, her frustration with trying to get former MSU President John Engler for an interview, Nessel's agenda to take on hate crimes, and joining over fifteen other states in the suit against President Trump's border wall. Well, just recently Governor Whitmer asked for two million dollars to boost the AG's investigations into Catholic clergy abuse. It's been a fast and furious agenda for Nessel's first three months in office.
Christy: How would you explain to people how you prioritized what you were going to tackle first? Well, I would say the first thing I wanted to do was to make certain that we extricated the state of Michigan from some lawsuits that I thought the state had no business being in, or that were, quite frankly, damaging to our state residents or to our natural resources. And to me that was the easiest thing to begin with, was just to get out of those lawsuits. It turned out to be a little harder than I thought, because so many of those lawsuits had been filed in circuits all around the country, so it took a little maneuvering. But you know, to me, I ran on a platform of protecting our environment. And there were so many lawsuits that Attorney General Schuette had entered that were devastating to the environment. Whether it had to do with issues of clean air or clean water or climate change, these were things that were in no way going to be helping people who live in our state and I felt as though it was important to withdraw from those cases as quickly as possible. In contrast to that, I did sign on to a number of cases that I thought were very important. I thought it was important that we defend the Affordable Care Act in regard to protecting people with preexisting conditions. And so we sought to sign on in order to defend people with preexisting conditions under the ACA as quickly as we could. So those were the kinds of things that were outstanding that I knew we could do something about immediately, but in addition to that we had a number of different areas that I thought it was so important that we get into so we immediately created an auto insurance fraud unit. Obviously in Michigan we have the highest rates of insurance, really anywhere in the nation, and a lot of it is due to fraud. And I’ve seen estimates up to a billion dollars a year that is lost in fraud and in part it contributes to the high price of auto insurance, so we established that unit. We established a hate crimes unit to combat the some thirty-percent increase in hate crimes that we’ve had here in the state just in the last few years. Do you still believe that state Attorneys General should be playing this larger role, just a larger role in challenging the Federal government? I think they have to right now. They’ve been successful because the courts, even a very conservative circuits, have recognized that the Federal government, many of the Federal agencies, have been overstepping their bounds and they’re not complying with the law. And so when you have the Federal government behaving in such a manner, where they seem to be wholly disregarding the constitution and wholly disregarding Federal law, it is up to the state AGs to hold them accountable. And that’s what I’ve been doing. I want to get to a couple of specific areas of investigation, I think people are very interested that the Attorney General’s office is involved in the Catholic church, and you have people across the state that are watching. How cooperative have the archdiocese around Michigan been with your office as you continue to investigate possible abuse? Well, you know, that varies from diocese to diocese. Some of them have been more cooperative than others. Christy: Do you care to be specific on whom? No, not right now. But, we’ll provide more information later, and ultimately at the end of our investigation we’ll be doing a
comprehensive report that I think is going to detail all of that. But what we've seen thus far is very disturbing and frankly even though we were told in the early 2000's that the Catholic church was really going to be cleaning up its act, and that a lot of behavior was not going to be tolerated anymore, that really has not been our experience in terms of the documents that we've reviewed. There have been egregious acts of misconduct during that time period and many of which, a lot of senior officials in the Catholic church knew about and did not come forward with it, and even worse seemed to aid and abet in the cover up of some of these allegations of sexual abuse. So, we are determined to move forward, I've had a lot of push-back, I think publicly about this, but to me, there is nothing more important than ensuring that people are not subjected to sexual abuse by clergy. And we want to put mechanisms in place to make certain that firstly people feel comfortable coming to us and coming forward to report this kind of abuse. Christy: Are you getting a lot of calls? Is the office getting a lot of calls? We are, we definitely are we're getting a lot of tips, and we're uncovering a lot in these hundreds of thousands of pages of documents that we've been reviewing. Christy: Do you believe you have all the documents that you need from the diocese? Well, I mean, certainly the way the search warrants were executed, I think that they certainly did, they were able to remove an enormous number of documents. Now, whether there are documents that we don't have, you don't know what you don't have. I think it's very hard sometimes to put a date on when you'd like to see something done, but can you give people a sense of how long this investigation will continue or are you saying in the next year or so that you might have some more answers for people? Our goal is to have a finalized report within two years, but what we've decided to do is not really just wait until that two years is over in order to make recommendations, and we're certainly not going to wait if there's any criminal prosecutions that need to move forward. You've changed who's going to be taking over the litigation in Flint, and with Kim Worthy's going to be overseeing that, and so there's been a little bit of delays in the criminal prosecution of Darnell Earley and a couple of other things, what can you tell people about delay in when you make a change like this and will there be some kind of eventual end here that will be in a speedy time? Oh, absolutely I think there will, but I think more important than doing things quickly is doing them right, and the fact of the matter is that I was highly critical of the way that prosecutions move forward during the course of the Schuette administration, I thought it was bizarre that you would have a private firm handling all this and that it would cost, and I know that we were up over eight million dollars for what turned out to be, let's see, fifteen prosecutions, half of which were misdemeanors, and all the cases that have been resolved have been resolved I think at ninety day pleas many of them under advisement. That was insane to me! I did not think for a minute that these cases were being handled properly and I put a new team together. I put my Solicitor General, Fadwa Hammoud, in charge to be working in concert with Kym Worthy, and I think anybody who
knows Prosecutor Worthy respects her and understands that there is nobody that she is gonna let of the hook, no matter who they are. But on the other hand she's not gonna prosecute people that don't deserve to be prosecuted for political expediency.

Okay, let's move on to Michigan State and the very public battle that has been playing out over the last couple of days with your need to speak with and interview former MSU President John Engler who said that he was not going to be in the state any time soon but indeed was in the state taking on a basketball game or two. Where are you right now with communication with his team and will you get a chance to sit down with him? In terms of our opportunity to interview former interim President Engler, I think in some ways that's a question for him in terms of it being a voluntary interview. And frankly all the hundreds and hundreds of interviews that have been conducted previously under the prior administration those where voluntary interviews, and we would have expected the same of John Engler. I thought it was very strange, to be honest with you, when I came into office, that he was pretty much the only person of any import that had not been interviewed. And then again, I absolutely suspected that there were some political consideration to that, as opposed to really getting the answers that we had to many of the questions about what occurred during the scandal, the Nassar scandal. We thought it was important because he played such a large role in terms of when he was brought in and we had a number of questions for him of course about the resolution of the Nassar cases but also information that turned up about the George Perles resignation and we thought it was very important to interview Mr. Engler, we spent months trying to arrange an interview, we were told time and time again that he would not be in the state of Michigan, and we had long suspected, quite frankly, that his attorneys were engaged in forum shopping. They only wanted Engler to be interviewed firstly in a place where I didn't have a prosecutorial authority. Engler's team has come back and said there's some kind of conflict of interest with someone in your office, how would you address that? I would call it ridiculous. Absolutely ridiculous. What kind of a conflict of interest is there? Because we have an assistant AG who's trying to coordinate the interviews. You know just because you don't like something that a person says does not mean it's a conflict of interest. I've handled thousands of cases where there might have been some bickering back and forth in terms of us trying to proceed on with the lawsuit, you don't get to say that a person has to recuse themselves. And you don't get to decide, by the way, who your prosecutor's going to be. So what can the trustees do about it, and what could your ultimate recourse be in this case? Well, I know that the trustees are going to try to get him to sit for an interview, to do it here in the state of Michigan. How successful they're going to be, I'm not sure. We're evaluating our options right now.
All right, let's get some analysis on the moves the AG's office is making. Say hello to Nolan Finley of the Detroit News and Stephen Henderson of WDET Radio. All right, I'm going to give you each just a quick shot at what kind of job that you think that she's doing so far. I think that she's doing a fine job, she's doing what you would expect a Democrat who's elected to that job- She's doing a lot of things that she talked about on the campaign, so there's not a lot of surprise. I think though, if you have an objection, it's that the AG's office should be more politically neutral. It hasn't been for a really long time, Bill Schuette was one of the most partisan AGs in the entire country, he set the stage for whoever was going to get elected after him on the other side to come in and undo all of it. I would hope that there's a way to get back to this idea of the Attorney General as a person who interprets the law and advocates for the state in legal terms and stays away from some of the more charged political issues, but you can't put that burden on her because they sure did not put it on Bill Schuette or on Michael Cox.

So you're saying there's a big shift this way, big shift back over, what are the two things that are concerning you most of all, Nolan?

And you've written about a couple of them.

Nolan: Oh, I think she's gonna blow Bill Schuette away in that regard. One, she's got her job confused with the legislature's jobs, she doesn't make laws, and she doesn't undo laws that the legislature has passed. That is not within her power. She can offer that opinion, but it is not in her power through separation of powers, and she is not the legislative branch, and she's trying to be that. But my big objection, my biggest objection I have with her is this hate crimes unit she and the Civil Rights Director Arbulu have formed to in their words, "investigate hate that doesn't rise to either a civil infraction or a crime." So they want to keep track of incidents to they can possibly bring more conversation, understanding, or what?

Nolan: Or shut down and harass people they disagree with. I think there's a Gestapo feel to this, you know when you talk about tracking members of a group. That's a pretty strong statement to use! To use that word.

Nolan: And I use it intentionally because it's a pretty offensive idea that you would investigate people, keep track of people, because they hold a different political view than you do. Is it keeping track of people or is it...(crosstalk)

I'm just using their own description. They want to take groups that they find offensive and investigate that don't rise to a crime or a civil infraction. That's an improper role. So there's always this weird call from generally the right when people stand up on the left and say, we're going to deal with some of the bigotry that conservatives either look the other way for, or in worse cases help foment, and say well, this is somehow inappropriate. You can't shut down thoughts!
Stephen: Now, hold on, it's not about shutting down thoughts. No, now hang on, now hang on she's not saying shut down thoughts.

Well, how do you know that's not what they're gonna do? When she says we're gonna go after people for things that don't rise to crime or civil infractions that's going after thought, that's going after political views. Going after people how so, what do you mean by that?

Nolan: She says we're going to keep track of your membership lists, that's an affront to free association, it's an affront to free speech, you can't defend that. So, at a time when we are dealing with more of this kind of activity than we have in the past, you think that the Attorney General should just sort of sit back and say, no big deal.

Nolan: You don't suspend the constitution. You have the right of free association. Some of the groups that she's identified are Catholic groups whose ideology she doesn't share, that's improper. Or whose ideology is threatening the freedom of other people. This is just a small part of what her agenda has been, I mean there have been many, many other things and it's funny I did this interview with her two weeks ago and the news cycle that has come since then has been very, very fast. Anyway, we're going to have to leave it there.
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Description: The inside story of President Trump's gamble to confront China over trade. Reporting from the US and China, NPR and FRONTLINE investigate what led the world's two largest economies to the brink, and the billions at stake.

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Topic: LEADERSHIP/PUBLIC POLICY
For the ninth consecutive year, Detroit Public Television and the One Detroit team are providing coverage of the 3-day Mackinac Policy Conference from Wednesday, May 29th to Friday, May 31st.

Coverage includes stage sessions and in-depth interviews that will be offered to public television stations statewide. The coverage will focus on issues that impact the entire state of Michigan, including sessions on early childhood education, how businesses can play a role in protecting the state, and investing in local communities in order to promote growth and competition in the global economy.

With more than 20,000 unique audience members watching, all content will be offered at no cost to continue to make the Conference as accessible as possible to Michiganders.

**Wednesday, May 29**
- 9:00am – An Equitable Start: Aligning Early Childhood and K-12 Systems to Maximize Impact hosted by The Kresge Foundation
- 10:30am – Activating Change: Investing in Local Communities hosted by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
- 12:15pm- Governor Whitmer’s Welcome Address

**Thursday, May 30**
- 9:20am – John Kasich, Former Governor of Ohio; Senior Political Commentator, CNN
- 12:00pm – Filling the Skills Gap: An Open Dialogue on Workforce Realignment hosted by the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation
- 1:55pm – Boosting Education Excellence
  - Tonya Allen, President and CEO, The Skillman Foundation
  - Paula Herbart, President, Michigan Education Association
  - Doug Rothwell, President and CEO, Business Leaders for Michigan