

North Country Matters Taping New Shows

POTSDAM - North Country Matters, the local video public affairs magazine produced by WCKN under the direction of Dan Dullea of the Center for Excellence in Communication at Clarkson University, has begun filming new shows for the Spring semester.

The first new show produced in the WCKN studios at Clarkson University examines Title IX in public schools. Potsdam's Donna Seymour, the AAUW-NYS Public Policy vice president and a member of the St. Lawrence County Branch, sat down with St. Lawrence Lewis-BOCES administrator Carl Normadin, the Section 10 Athletic Coordinator, for a wide-ranging discussion of Title IX.

Title IX is a portion of the Education Amendments of 1972 which governs how schools that take federal dollars must

treat students. It prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender. While Title IX is best known for its impact on high school and collegiate athletics, the original statute made no explicit mention of sports. The legislation covers all educational activities and applies to non-sport activities such as school band and clubs.

The Title IX show airs on WCKN, Time Warner Digital Channel 30, at 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, following the Peak Moment TV episode. The second show is the video from an event by Senator Kirsten Gillibrand that took place in Watertown on Jan. 23 at Jefferson Community College.

Clarkson Communication student Paige R. Smith, an AAUW intern this semester, videoed the meeting and prepared it for broadcast.

Senator Gillibrand rolled out the Paid Family Leave Insurance portion of her Women's Economic Agenda, a five point plan to improve the economic security of women and their families. Speaking in support of the proposal were several north country residents: JCC Student Government representative Alyssa F. McKenzie-Chery, Watertown, and Potsdam's Susan Rice and Donna Seymour, who shared personal stories.

The NCM civic partners working to educate north country residents about critical public policy issues facing our region include AAUW-St. Lawrence County, the League of Women Voters of St. Lawrence County, and Clarkson Media and Mass Communication students, who provide the technical expertise for the productions. The shows are filmed at

the WCKN studio on the Clarkson campus.

This semester's shows will feature north country residents discussing a variety of topics of local interest. Planned topics include teen dating violence, suicide prevention, education issues, and gender equity. The half-hours shows will be broadcast on local public access TV as well as on YouTube for later viewing.

In addition to local broadcasts, the shows are also available on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/user/danieledullea>. Check the websites for AAUW-St. Lawrence County (<http://www.northnet.org/stlawrenceaauw/index.html>) and the League of Women Voters of St. Lawrence County (<http://slc-leaguenv.org/>) for specific program links as they become available.



NORTH COUNTRY MATTERS - North Country Matters airs a public policy event with Senator Kirsten Gillibrand held on Jan. 23 in Watertown as one of the first NCM shows of the year broadcast on Feb. 3 and 4 on WCKN, Time Warner Digital Channel 30. Speakers include Donna Seymour, the AAUW-NYS Public Policy vice president, Senator Gillibrand, Carole McCoy, president of Jefferson Community College, Potsdam resident Susan Rice, and JCC Student Government representative Alyssa F. McKenzie-Chery. The event focused on the need for Paid Family Leave Insurance. This video follows a NCM segment on Title IX in Public Schools at 7:30 p.m. both days. (Submitted Photo)