2023 Second Quarter Issues/Programs

Food Insecurity

4/6/23 Air Time: 4:30pm Run Time: 3:29 4/7/23 Air Time: 6:29/8:29am Run Time: 3:29

According to a survey, about 30 percent of University of West Florida students consider themselves food insecure. To combat this, university faculty and students have introduced the Argos' Edible Campus program to provide access to fresh produce around campus. WUWF's Hunter Morrison has details.

Legislative Session

4/10/23 Air Time: 4:30pm Run Time: 3:45 4/11/23 Air Time: 6:29/8:29am Run Time: 3:45

The 2023 Florida legislative session has reach the halfway mark and lawmakers have passed, and are working on, several pieces of controversial legislation. WUWF's Bob Barrett spoke with Rachel Witbracht, director of government relations for the University of West Florida, about some of those new laws including permit-less carry.

Law Enforcement/Reducing Gun Violence

4/13/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:33am, 4:30pm Run Time: 5:20

After a series of roundtable discussions on reducing gun violence in Escambia County, Sheriff Chip Simmons is now launching an action plan that will focus the community's collective efforts in the Brownsville area for the next two months. WUWF's Sandra Averhart has details on Operation Brownsville.

Environment – Walkable Communities

4/17/23 Air Time: 3:30pm Run Time: 3:59

Do people want to live in more walkable cities? A recent study suggests the answer is yes. In fact, the study concludes that homebuyers will pay 35% more for

walkable real estate. But how do we create walkable communities when cars dominate our lives? That's what walkability expert Dan Burden will be discussing at tonight's night's CivicCon event. WUWF's Jennie McKeon talked to Burden before his visit to Pensacola.

Government Accountability -Old Escambia County Jail Conditions

4/19/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:33am, 4:30pm Run Time: 5:17

A little more than a year after Escambia County Commissioners put the spotlight on deteriorating conditions at the old county jail, some issues have been addressed, but some problems persist for inmates still housed there. WUWF's Sandra Averhart has details.

Military – Climate Change

4/20/23 Air Time: 6:29/8:33am, 4:30pm Run Time: 3:07

Designing and fortifying military bases against the effects of climate change is not some far-off concept, it's happening right now. A group of military and climate experts will be taking on that topic about this Monday in downtown Pensacola. WUWF's Bob Barrett has a preview.

Education – Warrington Middle School

4/20/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:33am, 3:30pm Run Time: 4:59

Members of the Florida Board of Education Wednesday expressed their frustration over the lack of progress in Warrington Middle School's transition to a charter school. Officials from the Escambia County School District are now under increased pressure to sign a charter contract before the state Board convenes again next month or face having to close the school.

Affordable Housing/Criminal Justice

4/24/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:45am, 4:30pm Run Time: 5:19

JUST Pensacola is gearing up for its 4th annual Nehemiah Action Assembly this evening at First Baptist Church of Warrington. Because they're such huge issues, the coalition of 17 interfaith congregations is continuing to press for action on criminal justice and affordable housing, narrowing the focus to expansion of the Civil Citation program and affordable rental housing in the City of Pensacola. (Sandra Averhart reports.)

Florida Legislative Session

4/25/23 Air Time: 4:30pm Run Time: 3:26

4/26/23 Air Time: 6:29/8:33am Run Time: 3:26

The Florida legislature is continuing debate on bills and budgets in Tallahassee. And even though there are a little under two weeks left in the session, a number of new laws have made their way to the governor's desk, some of which involve controversial topics. Here to give us an update on some of these bills is Rachel Witbracht, director of government relations for the University of West Florida. She spoke on Tuesday afternoon with WUWF's Bob Barrett.

Affordable Housing/Criminal Justice

4/26/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:33am, 4:30pm Run Time: 4:19

At this year's Nehemiah Action Assembly held Monday, JUST Pensacola did not get a commitment on its proposal to create an Affordable Rental Housing Trust Fund. But leaders of the interfaith coalition scored a victory in their efforts to establish a civil citation program for adults. (SA reports)

Community Enhancement/Violent Crime

4/28/23 Air Time: 6:29/8:29am, 4:30pm Run Time: 4:16

Pensacola area residents, who have lost a loved one to an act of violence, now have a place to go for solitude, reflection and remembrance.

The Garden of Peace and Hope, a memorial for homicide victims, was officially dedicated this week at Corinne Jones Park in downtown Pensacola. WUWF's Sandra Averhart reports.

Environment

5/3/23 Air Time: 6:29/8:29am/4:30pm Run Time: 3:52

A local environmental group has launched a new website to bring education and appreciation of the region's estuaries. WUWF's Bob Barrett reports.

Florida Legislative Session

5/4/23 Air Time: 8:29/8:31am/4:30pm Run Time: 5:14

The Florida legislature is winding down its 2023 session and lawmakers are wrapping up work of the few remaining bills that are pending. Here to give us an update is Rachel Witbracht, director of government relations for the University of West Florida. She spoke on Wednesday afternoon with WUWF's Bob Barrett.

Education

5/4/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:31am/3:29pm Run Time: 5:02

The Escambia County School Board is moving forward with plans to convert Warrington Middle School into a charter school. Meeting the Florida Board of Education deadline of May 1, members on Monday signed off on a charter contract and lease agreement. Documents are now in the hands of Charter Schools USA and its chosen provider, Renaissance Charter School, Inc. But the deal has yet to be finalized.

Traffic/Transportation

5/5/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:33am/4:30pm Run Time: 3:37

Motorists in central Santa Rosa County now have another north-south route available. On Wednesday, the Board of County Commissioners hosted a ribbon-

cutting ceremony for the new Pea Ridge Connector Road between Milton and Pace and then opened it to traffic. (SA)

Homelessness

5/11/23 Air Time: 4:30pm Run Time: 5:03 5/12/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:45am Run Time: 5:03

An ambitious federal plan to address homelessness was presented Tuesday to elected officials from the City of Pensacola and Escambia County. WUWF's Sandra Averhart reports, the presentation included tips for how local elected leaders could secure maximum funding for the community effort.

Education-Warrington Middle Charter School

5/16/23 Air Time: 4:30pm Run Time: 4:31

Frustrated members of the Florida Board of Education voted this morning to give the Escambia County School Board 48-hours to submit a final contract for a charter school at Warrington Middle School. WUWF's Sandra Averhart reports, if Escambia education officials fail to meet the new Thursday morning deadline, the district is subject sanctions to include loss of some state funding.

Education/Politics

5/17/23 Air Time: 8:31am/4:30pm Run Time: 3:00/3:47

In a surprise move Tuesday night, the Escambia County School Board voted to terminate Dr. Tim Smith, the District's first appointed superintendent, after less than three years at the helm. WUWF's Sandra Averhart reports.

Florida Anti-Drag Show Law

5/23/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:34am/4:30pm Run Time: 4:56

Last week, Florida governor Ron DeSantis signed into law a bill banning businesses and individuals from admitting children to "adult live performances,"

including drag shows. The new law also bans governments from giving permits to businesses or events with such performances. WUWF's Hunter Morrison reports, local LGBTQ advocates are concerned about the measure and how it will affect the community.

Cultural Heritage Preservation

5/25/23 Air Time: 7:45am/3:30pm Run Time: 5:06

The City of Pensacola conducted a preliminary Ground Penetrating Radar survey at Miraflores Park, earlier this week. This first look underground yielded no significant findings, but WUWF's Sandra Averhart reports it will help to determine what's next in the effort to find more details about the site and its possible use as a burial ground in the late 1800s.

Environment

5/30/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:33am/4:29am Run Time: 5:09

An ambitious public greenway project in Pensacola is picking up support locally and statewide. WUWF's Bob Barrett reports.

Education/Politics

5/31/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:29am/4:30pm Run Time: 3:42

The Escambia County School Board voted Tuesday to formally offer the position of interim superintendent to long-time district administrator Keith Leonard for a term of 13 months. He currently serves as assistant superintendent for human resource services. Ultimately, Leonard was the unanimous choice, but not before a vigorous debate about the fact that he was selected over the district's second in command. (Sandra Averhart)

Public Safety – Hurricane Season Preparation

6/1/23 Air Time: 6:29/8:29am/4:30pm Run Time: 3:11

As another hurricane season gets underway, emergency operations officials are urging residents to be prepared for staying at home a bit longer than they used to. WUWF's Bob Barrett reports.

Operation Brownsville - Reducing Gun Violence

6/7/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:34am/4:29pm Run Time: 5:22

For weeks now, the City of Pensacola and Escambia County have led a community-wide, intensive focus on the west side neighborhood of Brownsville. "Operation Brownsville" launched in April after a series of roundtable discussions on reducing gun violence in Escambia County. WUWF's Sandra Averhart reports, cleanup is an essential part of the overall effort.

Mental Health: Grief Support for Children

6/12/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:34am Run Time: 5:28 6/13/23 Air Time: 3:30pm Run Time: 5:28

A Florida-based nonprofit dedicated to helping children who have lost a loved one has celebrated the opening of their new home in Pensacola. WUWF's Bob Barrett has the story.

Government Accountability/Children's Services Council Grant application

6/14/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:45am/3:30pm Run Time: 4:39

The City of Pensacola is partnering with Community Health Northwest Florida and Lakeview Center to seek a nearly \$3.5 million grant from the Escambia Children's Trust to fund a children's resource center. If awarded, the grant would allow the City to acquire and renovate the Morris L. Eaddy Lakeview Activity Center near Baptist Hospital. Pensacola Mayor D.C. Reeves says the facility would be turned into a center dedicated to providing integrated healthcare services and other resources for local youth. (Sandra Averhart)

Homelessness

6/16/23 Air Time: 6:31/8:31am Run Time: 1:15

Dozens of unhoused people will be displaced as trespass orders begin Thursday, June 15 at an encampment on Marshall Lane in Escambia County. Property owner Collier Merrill says the issue is a "double-edged sword" since he is under county orders and facing pressure from neighbors. But homeless advocate Michael Kimberl says he is concerned that the displaced people won't have anywhere to go with limited shelter beds available and homelessness resources already stretched thin. You can read the full story by WUWF's Jennie McKeon online at our website, wuwf.org.

Diversity/Inclusion

6/16/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:34am Run Time: 5:44/6:02

Despite the current political climate surrounding issues of race, diversity and inclusion, the Pensacola community has gone "all in" for its second annual Journey to Juneteenth celebration of Black history and culture. (Sandra Averhart)

Public Safety/Storm Recovery

6/16/23 Air Time: 3:30pm Run Time: 3:51

Recovery efforts are continuing after severe storms swept across the Panhandle Thursday. WUWF's Sandra Averhart reports.

Politics

6/23/23 Air Time: 7:45/8:31am/4:30pm Run Time: 5:21

Santa Rosa Commissioner James Calkins was one-for-two Thursday on proposed resolutions on two hot-button issues that were brought forth just *this week*. Board members voted unanimously for a resolution to designate June as "Pro Life Month" in the county. But, they declined to officially support Calkins' proposal to encourage the Santa Rosa School Board to immediately remove pornographic books out of school libraries.

 $Public\ Safety-Beach/Swimming\ Safety$

6/30/23 Air Time: 6:45/8:33am/4:30pm Run Time: 5:36

Extreme heat and recent drownings across the Panhandle have heightened awareness of beach safety heading into the July 4th holiday weekend. With so many visitors expected, beach safety officials are taking a proactive approach to keeping people safe. (Sandra Averhart)