

TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WFGX
Location: Fort Walton Beach, FL
Quarter ending: December 31, 2019

ISSUE/description: 2. ENVIRONMENT. Maintaining the quality of life desired within our community; protecting wildlife and their natural habitat; maintaining the proper balance between development and protection of resources.

How Issue was treated (Program, PSA, etc.):

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time/Duration</u>	<u>Program type</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Full Measure with Sharyl Attkisson	10/20/19	12:30PM/5 minutes	Public Affairs	*

* Full Measure is a broadcast focusing on investigative, original and accountability reporting. The show format includes a major investigative piece each week on topics ranging from immigration issues at home and abroad, government waste, national security concerns and vulnerabilities, whistleblower reports on government abuse and misdeeds. This week, we visited a facility located in the rural hills near Richmond, Kentucky, tasked with destroying one of humanity's worst inventions ... chemical weapons. The U.S. is getting rid of their stockpile in part thanks to one dedicated veteran. Craig Williams spearheaded efforts to make sure the weapons could not simply be incinerated and sent into smokestacks right next to their school. He created public resistance until the military created new methods for neutralizing the chemical agents, with more testing. The goal is to have the remainder of all chemical weapons destroyed by the end of 2023.

2. Full Measure with Sharyl Attkisson	10/27/19	12:30PM/9 minutes	Public Affairs	**
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** This week we examined the challenge, and cost, of saving some cities like New Orleans, from flooding, and the question of whether others might not survive. After Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Congress gave \$14 billion in tax dollars for the largest civil engineering project in U.S. history ... to protect New Orleans and reinforce its levees. Now more cities are facing a costly fight to survive. One study shows that to protect all U.S. cities on the coasts with seawalls would cost \$416 billion. In some small communities, the cost works out to \$1 million per person. LSU professor Ed Richards studies how cities will weather future storms. He says the money goes to politically and economically powerful cities, and those in rural areas and small towns will not be able to protect themselves as water levels rise. He says we should invest our tax dollars as incentives to build new towns inland from the coasts, and to coax residents of the coasts to move to higher ground.

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3. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX	11/12/19	09:00PM/2.2 minutes	News	***

*** The City of Pensacola has just completed the pipeline replacement project. Over the past three years, Pensacola Energy replaced centuries old natural gas lines with new leak-free and high-pressure service. In the late 1800s the gas main system in the city was built using cast iron. Until recently, some of those 100-year-old pipes were still underground in the city. The old pipes had some neighbors concerned about gas leaks. They often smelled gas before the old gas cast iron pipes were replaced. The pipeline replacement project is complete; 80 miles of old piping was replaced around the downtown, east hill and north hill areas. "We are delighted; it's a major safety issue and it's part of the infrastructure that certainly has to have some major attention. I'm thrilled the city has invested," said Norm Haynes, who lives in the East Hill neighborhood. The replacement impacted 3,527 resident and 108 commercial customers in Pensacola. The city said the newly installed pipes are in compliance with the Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

4. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX	11/19/19	09:00PM/2.4 minutes	News	****
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**** The Pensacola City Council approved the Tree Planting and Management Plan for 2020 during their last council meeting. \$100,000 worth of trees will be planted around the city; the money will come from the Tree Planting Trust Fund. The fund has been frozen for several years because of disagreements between the council and the previous administration on how the money was being used. The money in the fund comes from fees developers pay when they knock trees down to build. Susan Jacobs lives in Pensacola and is excited about the idea of having more trees in the area; she just hopes the city will plan wisely before planting them. "It's a lot of money, I hope they put it to good use, plant long term sustainable trees, think about where they are going to put them not to close to a building not close to a side walk where they will suddenly need to knock it down in 10 years," Jacobs said. The plan doesn't say exactly where the trees will be planted; every district will be getting \$10,000 for new trees. District 2 will be getting an additional \$20,000 because of tree loss they experienced during the 2016 tornadoes. The remaining \$10,000 allocated will go to the city's Neighborhood Challenge Grant Program. But council members will have the flexibility to move the allocated district funds to other districts or the neighborhood grants if they choose to. The type of trees planted hasn't been determined yet, and while oak trees are very popular in Pensacola, Mayor Robinson said they want to add diversity to the types of trees in the city. "When we look at the habitat for the animals we have and the variety of other things we need a diversity, not just oaks," Robinson said. They're working with the native plant society to determine what trees will be the best fit to support the natural wildlife in Pensacola. All the new trees will be planted on public property.

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5. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX	11/21/19	09:00PM/2.6 minutes	News	*****

***** The holidays come with a lot of cooking and many of those classic dishes can have excess oils and grease. Deep-frying a turkey can often leave up to five gallons of cooking oil. Properly disposing those oils can prevent clogs and overflows from happening. Jim Roberts, Public Information Officer with the Emerald Coast Utilities Authority, said during this season they work on a lot of overflows. The problem is a lot of people don't know what they can and can't wash down the drain. Cooking oil, baking grease, pasta and even milk shouldn't be poured down. What happens when you drain your holiday cooking may not be pretty and pipe repairs can be costly to your wallet. When grease cools, it hardens and that causes your pipes to clog. "If you put these materials down the pipes it will clog up the flow of the water and then it will back up either into your home, or it will back into a house," Roberts said. Overflows can be messy and an environmental hazard. "It's something that you don't want to experience because it's not nice, it's very unsanitary, but its controllable," Roberts said. The best way to dispose your leftover oils and grease is to pour it into a container. Roberts said then you can throw it away in the trash or take it to one of the ECUA cooking oil disposal stations. ECUA will then using the oil and recycle it into biodiesel fuel.

6. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX	11/27/19	09:00PM/3.2 minutes	News	*****
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***** Channel 3 News has been covering Navy water testing near Saufley Field, showing possible contaminants in the area's water wells, for months now. Wednesday was delivery day for the community next to Saufley Field – just another drop-off of bottled water and gallon jugs. That is what the homeowners have to live off of. "It's not convenient. It's like the devil's curse that's at the most inopportune times. Like after a shower, in your underwear at 6 o'clock in the morning, you have to run outside and get a three-gallon jug of water," said resident Keith Costello. It's nothing new and has been this way for nearly 10 months. Now, the frustration has boiled over. "If the Navy's watching, I hope they have a very good holiday. Congratulations on getting a new commander, a new Navy secretary. This is in your backyard and it's a problem you created, it's a problem you should fix," he added. The contaminants in the water are believed to be related to chemicals called PFAs for short, which was previously used in a firefighter foam at the base. The Navy conducted water well testing back in February. A spokesperson said while looking at 50 samples, 13 wells show levels that could potentially be unsafe to drink from. Those are the homes receiving bottled water. Lisa Brooks just recently lost her husband to cancer. She knows chances are there's no way to ever prove it, but she strongly believes his death has something to do with the water. "Radiologist said the radiation should have worked – and it [cancer] blew up, just spread like crazy everywhere," she said. Brooks hopes to see this potentially tainted water gone for good and a solution in place but feels the damage may already be done. A Navy spokesperson said they are working on a long-term solution, which is to connect folks onto municipal water through ECUA. They don't expect that to happen until spring 2020.

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7. Full Measure with Sharyl Attkisson	12/22/19	12:30PM/4.4 minutes	Public Affairs	*****

***** This year the Department of Defense issued a report saying the effects of a changing climate are a national security issue, impacting missions and bases. As “nuisance flooding” becomes an everyday flood, the bases can’t function. And stronger hurricanes, like Michael which struck Tindall Air Force Base in nearby Panama City, Florida, in 2018, damaged a fleet of F-22 fighter jets worth a billion dollars. If that storm had taken a slightly different track, it could have destroyed Eglin Air Force Base or even Pensacola Naval Air Station. Prior to this administration, the DOD was a leader in warning of the threats posed by climate change, but now they’re being pressured to not talk about it.

8. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX	12/26/19	09:00PM/1.2 minutes	News	*****
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***** The City of Fort Walton Beach has started a stormwater improvement project. It’s on Anchors Street Northwest and will alleviate flooding issues in the area. About 1,900 feet of stormwater infrastructure will be replaced along the roadway. “Flooding on Anchors Street has historically caused problems for businesses and commuters in the Commerce & Technology Park area,” said Public Works and Utility Services Director Daniel Payne. “Our Stormwater Master Plan outlines the necessary steps we must take to ensure that our stormwater system is sufficient.” An additional 150 feet, plus three driveway culverts, will be replaced on Lovejoy Road Northwest. Construction is expected to last six months. Motorists can expect some traffic delays and possible lane and road closures. The total construction cost is \$851,120.20 and will be paid for with stormwater utility user fees. The City also secured a matching state grant of \$200,000 to help pay for the design and construction of the project.