

TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WFGX-TV
Location: Fort Walton Beach, FL
Quarter ending: September 30, 2019

ISSUE/description: 1. GOVERNMENT & POLITICS. President Trump; Governor DeSantis; Florida legislature and politics; local political issues; extreme partisan politics; 2020 Presidential election; impeachment.

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

| <u>Title</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Time/Duration</u> | <u>Program type</u> | <u>Description</u> |
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| 1. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 07/01/19 | 09:00PM/1.7 minutes | News | * |

* More than 200 bills were signed into law by Governor Ron DeSantis, many of them starting July first. Law enforcement can now pull you over for just texting and driving, now a primary offense and you are not allowed to hold or use your phone when driving through a school or work zone area. Sergeant Rich Alloy with the Santa Rosa Sheriff's Office said this new law will help save many lives in Florida. Over 52,000 crashes, 3,068 injured and 233 people died in 2018 in the state of Florida because of distracted driving according to the Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Firefighters with cancer and the families of firefighters who have died from it can now get access to certain benefits. That new law will also help firefighters pay their bills while undergoing cancer treatment by providing \$25,000 when they are first diagnosed. A constitutional amendment bans vaping in indoor workplaces. This ban is similar to the law that prohibits smoking tobacco inside while at work. You are still allowed to use vape pens and e-cigarettes inside stand-alone bars, designated hotel rooms, and retail vape shops. A new law is clearing the way for self-driving cars. It prohibits local governments from imposing taxes, fees and other requirements on automated driving systems or autonomous vehicles that are different than what is imposed on non-self-driving cars. Floridians are now allowed to grow their own fruit and vegetables in their front yards without being fined by the local government. The law prohibits local jurisdictions from passing ordinances against homeowners raising vegetable gardens in their front yards.

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| 2. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 07/05/19 | 09:00PM/1.7 minutes | News | ** |
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** With Destin's Crab Island now crowded and commercialized, an Okaloosa commissioner got reports of a watersports business moving to a quiet island in the Santa Rosa Sound. Channel 3 News rode along as he went to investigate. In the middle of the Santa Rosa Sound near Hurlburt Field, there are several man-made islands, long a quiet hideaway for locals. Okaloosa County Commissioner Trey Goodwin said, "The biggest concern is ... because of the experience we've had at Crab Island. What started out as a boiled peanut vendor and an ice cream boat, turned into a much larger and expansive commercial enterprise." Goodwin and an Okaloosa deputy found Destiny Water Adventures, and its owner, Kevin O'Neal. He once operated at Crab Island, but said he doesn't anymore, because people are getting killed at Crab Island. And it's happening all the time." O'Neal brings people over in pontoon boats, then they can rent jet skis and paddleboards. He said he's doing his best to operate legally, and he closely watches his customers to make sure they stay safe. He said, "Here's all my documentation, I'm licensed, got National Seashore, I've contacted Hurlburt, I've contacted the county." O'Neal also says he keeps his customers away from Soundside homes, so they won't be bothered by the commotion. Goodwin summarized, "It's reminiscent of what we see over at Crab Island. But it is at a small scale, at least today." Commissioner Goodwin plans to report back to the full board, and to check with Gulf Islands National Seashore to make sure there aren't any issues.

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| 3. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 07/08/19 | 09:00PM/1.9 minutes | News | *** |

***The latest effort to incorporate Navarre came before Santa Rosa County commissioners on Monday. Commissioners are now discussing the proposed boundaries and the language of a petition that could be circulated among voters. The boundaries they suggest are the county line on the east, East Bay Boulevard on the west end, and the Holley community to the north. Some Holley residents are voicing concern about being included, citing the prospect of higher taxes. Commissioners stress that any incorporate effort must go through the state legislature. Meanwhile, Navarre Area United wants a non-binding referendum to gauge voter interest. Right now, commissioners are being asked to approve working of a petition. Incorporation advocates say it's a grassroots effort at this point. "It's an ongoing process that will take years," said Navarre Area United CEO Jonathan Cole. Commissioners will be discussing the petition and other aspects of the incorporation proposal further at their regular meeting on Thursday.

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| 4. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 07/09/19 | 09:00PM/1-minute | News | **** |
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****Transportation planners continue to get pushback from the City of Mary Esther over plans to a six-lane Highway 98 through their city. That two-mile stretch is part of a planned 24-mile project from Gulf Breeze to Fort Walton Beach. In fall 2018, the city passed a resolution opposing it. They argue with a four-lane flyover at Hurlburt Field, it makes little sense to go back to six lanes that would end at the Fort Walton Beach city limits. "With the project, the city will lose two homes and 26 businesses. This at a time when we've been meeting with our businesses to see what we can do to help them," said Mayor Margaret McLemore. City leaders say added lanes will also make it harder for residents to get in and out of their subdivisions along Highway 98. They want their stretch of the project to be removed from a priority list. The mayor says a meeting to discuss is set for July 19 at 3 p.m. at the courthouse in Crestview.

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| 5. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 07/09/19 | 09:00PM/2.3 minutes | News | ***** |
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***** The new Pensacola Bay Bridge is one step closer to be named after General Chappie James. A committee unanimously voted to name the bridge after General James at a meeting Tuesday night. General James's impact can be felt in our community and around the world. He was a Pensacola native and the first African American four-star general in the military. James also stood out for his selflessness, character and love for our country. The decision comes after months of heated debate and public input on what to name the bridge. "The public has spoken with clarity, with vibrancy and substantially with one voice," said the committee chairman. It must be approved by the Gulf Breeze City Council and the Escambia County Commission before being passed onto the state for a final decision on the name.

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| 6. Full Measure with Sharyl Attkisson | 07/14/19 | 12:30PM/7 min. | Public Affairs | ***** |

***** This week, we talked with Social Scientist Dr. Thomas L. Krannawitter about his new book, "Save the Swamp", a career guidebook for budding bureaucrats, which defines the Washington "swamp" as millions of unelected government employees who have the power to issue and enforce regulations as if they are law. The "swamp" began in the late 1800s, with the theory that government is better by unelected experts than by elected rubes. Today 1 out of 6 working Americans work directly for the government, and their job functions are rarely affected by elections.

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| 7. Armstrong Williams Show | 07/28/19 | 12:00PM/30 minutes | Public Affairs | ***** |
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***** Guests were Jose Aristimuno, Former Deputy Press Secretary for the Democratic Party; Shelby Emmett, Constitutional Law Attorney; Horace Cooper, National Center for Public Policy Research; and Al Regnery, President/Publisher at Republic Book Publishers. Today's topic was Trump supporters vs. non-supporters.

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| 8. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 08/15/19 | 09:00PM/1.1 minutes | News | ***** |
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***** The Santa Rosa Island Authority is working to change the language of an ordinance that would protect unleased lands on Pensacola Beach. Members of the group Save Pensacola Beach fear if the changes are approved, it could lead to overdevelopment on the beach. The drafted ordinance would allow the SRIA and the county commission to increase or decrease the allowed residential building on the beach. President of the group, Dianne Krumel, says the new version does not reflect what 80% of county residents voted on in 2018. In 2018, there was a referendum placed on the ballot that adopted a policy to prohibit any privatization through sale or lease of currently unleased properties, especially conservation and preservation properties on Santa Rosa Island. Over 95,000 citizens voted in favor of this ordinance. Now, the SRIA says some of that language is not legal, a major concern for Commissioner Lumon May who questioned if that was the case why it was put on the ballot in the first place. The new language drafted by the SRIA includes: Reaffirming laws of Florida. Chapter 24500 as amended, providing for a unanimous vote by the Santa Rosa Island Authority Board and the Board of County Commissioners of Escambia County, Florida to decrease or increase the residential building cap of 4128 units on Pensacola Beach...Commissioner Steven Barry suggested Commissioner Robert Bender, who represents the district, to come up with a compromise on the language in the ordinance. Krumel says she's open for compromise and will meet with Bender as soon as possible. There will be a public hearing about this proposed ordinance on September 5th.

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| 9. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 08/21/19 | 09:00PM/2 minutes | News | ***** |

***** Escambia County Commissioners are expected to sign off on a major road swap deal with the State, after a recent straw vote showed unanimous support. The deal would have the State take over a 2.5 mile stretch of Beulah Road from Mobile Highway to Isaacs Lane; this would allegedly speed up the construction of a new exit off I-10 in the area. The State would hand over a 6.2 mile stretch of Perdido Key Drive, giving the County more control over pedestrian safety measures in the area. The proposition isn't without controversy - local activist Margaret Hostetter created a petition to "Stop the Swap", citing fears of what would happen if a hurricane damaged Perdido Key Drive. We also spoke to Sava Varazo, who lives in Perdido Key, who believes it's one of the worst deals the County could ever make. "If we get hit by a hurricane and we are trying to pay for it and we get hit by another one the same year, theoretically Perdido Key could be shut down for years," she said. Commissioner Jeff Bergosh disagrees and said the good outweighs the bad. He said FEMA would reimburse about 85% of damages.

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| 10. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 08/29/19 | 09:00PM/1.8 minutes | News | *10 |
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*10 Governor Ron DeSantis ordered a security audit of all 67 counties in May after Special Counsel Robert Muller's report said Russians successfully hacked two Florida Counties in 2016. The audit is complete, according to former president of the Florida State Association of Election Supervisors, Paul Lux, but once a report is published it's not going to advertise what problems were found. "There was no manipulation; it didn't have any effect," said DeSantis in May. But the FBI would not let him name the counties, partly because it would help the hackers learn how they were detected. One of the biggest challenges supervisors are facing a year ahead of the 2020 election is hiring people to process petitions, thanks to a new law. Since July, petition gatherers have been required to register with the state and turn petitions into supervisors within 30 days. It has required dozens of new hires. Elections supervisors are sharing a \$5 million grant to increase security, and will ask for more when lawmakers meet in January.

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| 11. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 09/05/19 | 09:00PM/1.3 minutes | News | *11 |
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*11 Pensacola's beaches are one step closer to remaining in the public's hands. Thursday night Escambia County commissioners unanimously voted to approve an ordinance ensuring the public sections of Santa Rosa Island will remain that way. Dozens of 'Save Pensacola Beach' members broke into applause after the vote. The organization was founded to ensure Pensacola's beaches remain preserved and aren't over-developed. The approved ordinance upholds a 1947 deed, prohibiting Escambia County from selling any publicly-owned part of Santa Rosa Island. It also states that unleased property on Pensacola Beach will remain public. In November, voters passed a non-binding referendum conserving the beaches. Dianne Krummel has spearheaded the 'Save Pensacola Beaches' movement. "We have ensured future generations this level of protection to allow them to enjoy what myself and others have for many years. They deserve the same rights," said Krummel. The Santa Rosa Island Authority approved the same ordinance at a meeting on August 14th. There's still a bit to go, before it becomes law. Now that the county has also approved the ordinance, it will be then passed on to the state for a final decision.

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| 12. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 09/05/19 | 09:00PM/1.5 minutes | News | *12 |

*12 Thursday night Escambia County commissioners unanimously approved a major road swap with the state. Now six miles of Perdido Key Drive will soon be controlled by the county. In exchange, the state will take over 3.4 miles of Beulah Road. Supporters say that will speed up construction of a new exit off I-10 in the area. Commissioner Doug Underhill was thrilled to see the deal approved. Underhill said it will now allow him to make much-needed road improvements in his district, which includes Perdido Key. "We don't want a highway plan in Perdido Key, we want a neighborhood plan. Today we got that with the road swap. It will take about 90 days for this all to complete, at which point we will start seeing the real things we wanted to do with the 'Perdido Key Master Plan'," said Underhill. Underhill said some of those improvements include safer crosswalks and the addition of crossing guards near Flora-Bama. He believes the crossing guards will reduce traffic caused by people crossing the street and make the area safer in general for pedestrians. Underhill expects these improvements to begin soon after the legal process is completed.

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| 13. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 09/09/19 | 09:00PM/1.3 minutes | News | *13 |
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*13 Pensacola may soon have its own 'member's only' dog park and beer garden. However, some residents aren't happy about the idea. Community leaders and people who live in Pensacola's Eastside neighborhood held a meeting to voice their concerns Monday night. They're against the concept created by the company 'Hair of the Dog', whose website states they're working with the city and the Florida Department of Transportation to lease a piece of land under Interstate 110 to be part of the Hollice T. Williams Park. Opponents fear it will exclude people who can't afford the proposed dog park membership fee. They also want to have input on what to do with this public land. Williams' son, David Williams, said "This dog park is not conducive to that neighborhood. There are young ones out there that need help and need an outlet." The opponents plan to bring this matter to Thursday's council meeting.

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| 14. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 09/12/19 | 09:00PM/2.4 minutes | News | *14 |
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*14 A controversial vote in Santa Rosa County is less than a month away. Voters will decide if they want to increase their current half-cent sales tax to a full one cent. If passed, it will cost the citizens about \$6 a month and the money will go towards infrastructure, public safety and quality of life projects. Moving Santa Rosa Forward, a political action committee, has placed about 175 signs and 6 billboards throughout the county, trying to convince voters this is the right move. Not everyone believes that's the case, including resident Phillip Hoffman. "Don't say yes to the sales tax because you cannot trust the folks who will spend your money," Hoffman said. If the tax is passed, he says citizens take on the financial burden of the local government's poor planning. Sam Parker disagrees because if it is passed, every consumer will pay to support the county's growth. "Nearly 30% will get paid by people who don't even live here, and we can capture it from tourists. That's a free 30% so I don't know how you find a fairer way to generate revenue to help your own community," Parker said. Hoffman would like to see impact fees placed on developers so that they could help generate money instead of placing the financial responsibility on citizens.

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| 15. Armstrong Williams Show | 09/22/19 | 12:00PM/12 minutes | Public Affairs | *15 |

*15 Guests were SBG Contributor Ameshia Cross; Jose Aristimuno, Former Deputy Press Secretary for the Democratic Party; A. Scott Bolden, former Chari of the DC Democratic Party; and Patrice Lee Onwuka, Senior Policy Analyst for the Independent Women's Forum. They evaluated the current Democratic Presidential candidates.

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| 16. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 09/23/19 | 09:00PM/2.2 minutes | News | *16 |
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*16 Electric Scooters are coming back to Pensacola. The City Council approved a new 12-month pilot program that will allow two scooters companies to come into the city and bring a total of 500 e-scooters or bikes. You will be able to rent out the e-scooter using a mobile application. "They are really active, they are good alternative, we heard some people will ride them to work, of course there is a big novelty aspect and people are just going to ride them around for fun on the weekends," said Keith Wilkins, Deputy City Administrator. Electric scooters have become very popular in cities across the country, but they've brought many safety concerns. "The issue is conflicts with traffic, getting hit by cars which has happened in several cities and has terrible consequences," Wilkins said. Wilkins said the pilot program is for 12 month and it outlines the rules and restrictions when operating an e-scooter company in Pensacola. "I know there are concerns but that's why we have a pilot program and we'll be able to address those concerns next year," Wilkins said. The ordinance establishes a speed limit of 15 miles per hour. Also using geo-fencing there will be restrictions on where one can ride. The council is set to vote on where they will be allowed. The e-scooter companies will be responsible in moving scooters that are blocking sidewalks. The city expects the scooters to be on streets on January 1, 2019.

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| 17. Channel 3 News at 9PM on WFGX | 09/24/19 | 09:00PM/2.2 minutes | News | *17 |
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*17 There are 175 days left until the Florida Presidential Primary and 406 days until the General Election. September 24th marks National Voter Registration Day and nationwide organizations will be encouraging people to register to vote. University of Florida student Jordan Negrón said National Voter Registration Day is the perfect opportunity for young people to get involved. "We have such a low turnout rate so if we were to register more people, we'd have a bigger effect on the actual election outcome," said Negrón. This week the Student Government Association and the Escambia County supervisor of elections will be out on campus encouraging people to register. David Stafford, Supervisor of Elections, said over 200,000 people have registered to vote in Escambia County; about 44% are registered Republicans, 33% Democrats, 20% no party affiliation and 1% minority party. Stafford said this is the highest number of registered voters the county has ever had. "The data tells us it's about 90 percent of register whether or not all those people go out and actually vote is another story," said Stafford. According to the Supervisor of Elections Office in the 2016 General Election there was 74% voter turnout. You can register to vote online, in person at the Supervisor of Elections Office, or my mail. The deadline to register is 29 days before an election.