

### [Demolition of hurricane ravaged auditorium allows for reopening of recreational fields](#)

December 20, 2023

The Magnolia Auditorium in Magnolia was used as a community hub until Hurricane Matthew blew portions of the roof off in 2016; the roof was still in need of repair in 2018 when Hurricane Florence dumped a foot of rain on it.

### [County board shoots down rezoning for sand mining operation](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 20, 2023

After a public hearing, the Pitt County Board of Commissioners rejected a request to rezone 40 acres on Pactolus Road to allow for a sand mine operation near Greenville.

### [Another lawsuit accuses North Carolina lawmakers of drawing racially biased Congressional maps](#)

[Rusty Jacobs, WUNC](#)

December 20, 2023

A federal lawsuit filed on behalf of Black voters and groups like the NAACP accuses North Carolina lawmakers of drawing racially biased state legislative and Congressional maps.

### [Bill could ease critical military nursing shortage at Camp Lejeune, Fort Liberty](#)

[Jay Price, WUNC](#)

December 20, 2023

U.S. senator Ted Budd is co-sponsoring a bill aimed at helping the military ease its critical shortage of nurses.

### [Company will pay testing and care costs, up to \\$150, for children who ate lead tainted snacks](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 20, 2023

Parents can apply for a refund for the cost of health care visits and blood work tied to a nationwide recall of fruit puree pouches containing apple cinnamon.

### [State of emergency will help Duplin, Sampson County farmers deal with flooding after weekend storm](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 20, 2023

North Carolina's governor has declared a State of Emergency in Duplin and Sampson counties because of flooding from Sunday's storm.

### [Dead sperm whale found near the point at Cape Lookout National Seashore](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 20, 2023

Last weekend, a group out fishing – including NC State veterinarians Drs. Greg Lewbart and Anthony Blikslager, found a dead sperm whale stranded near the point on Cape Lookout.

### [Old tires from years-old artificial reef experiment wash ashore across coastal ENC after Nor'easter](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 20, 2023

Sunday's Nor'easter churned up more than just waves along the southeast North Carolina coast, but also hundreds of tires from a decades old artificial reef experiment.

### [Local Government Roundup - Dec. 19, 2023](#)

[Ryan Shaffer](#)

December 19, 2023

A look at some of the stories coming out of town halls and board rooms across Eastern North Carolina.

### [Nonprofit asking for input on how to remember Kinston's Lincoln City neighborhood](#)

[Ryan Shaffer](#)

December 19, 2023

The area was bought out by FEMA in the late 1990s following historic flooding by Hurricane Floyd.

### [Guns stolen from dead man's shed lead to prison, suspect was wearing ankle monitor during theft](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 19, 2023

According to court documents, a neighbor saw Rodney Alligood removing guns from a neighbor's locked outbuilding and called the police. A woman told investigators that nearly 60 of her late-ex-husband's firearms had been stolen from the outbuilding, including pistols, revolvers, rifles and shotguns.

### [Narcan training will teach people how to respond to opioid overdoses until medical help arrives](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 19, 2023

The Craven County Opioid Epidemic Response training will cover how to recognize an opioid overdose, the use of nasal Narcan, and performing hands-only CPR.

### [Grants coming to ENC communities in effort to replace lead water service pipes](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 19, 2023

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality has announced 17 water systems statewide will receive \$13.2 million in funding for projects to inventory or find and replace lead service lines.

### [Judge tells TikTok to hand over recorded internal Zoom meetings in child safety investigation](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 19, 2023

North Carolina's attorney general won a court order requiring TikTok to hand over a secret archive of tens of thousands of recorded internal Zoom meetings that it initially failed to disclose for nearly a year and a half.

### [NCDHHS joining other southeastern states in effort to combat congenital syphilis](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 19, 2023

They're working together on aligned recommendations for standard syphilis screening in pregnant women and also to make testing a part of routine healthcare for everyone.

### [Greenville doctor killed while helping at accident scene on interstate near Raleigh](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 19, 2023

Physicians East Dr. Roger McMurray and Gregory Harman, of Raleigh, died after being hit by a pickup truck driven by Eric Rivas.

[NC flags lowered to honor former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 19, 2023

North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper has ordered all U.S. and state flags to be lowered to half-staff at state facilities until sunset Tuesday to honor former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

[Appeals court says Mark Meadows can't move Georgia election case charges to federal court](#)

[Associated Press](#)

December 19, 2023

A federal appeals court on Monday ruled that former Trump White House chief of staff Mark Meadows cannot move charges related to efforts to overturn the 2020 election in Georgia to federal court.

[NC12 open between Hatteras and Frisco, still closed on north end of Ocracoke](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 19, 2023

The section of NC12 between Hatteras and Frisco in the Outer Banks is back open, but the North Carolina Department of Transportation says there is still deep, standing water in the area – up to a foot in some spots – so people should travel with extreme caution.

[New mural in Kinston will connect people with substance recovery services](#)

[Ryan Shaffer](#)

December 18, 2023

Designed by local artists, the mural will contain a QR code that will provide information on Drug Recovery Courts, local AA and NA meetings, and other rehabilitative services.

[Mold-plagued Holly Plaza tenants now have access to rent vouchers for long term housing](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 18, 2023

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced it will provide vouchers to cover 12 months of rent starting January 1.

[N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries taking public comment on proposed striped mullet management plan](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 18, 2023

The N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries will start taking public comment this week on proposed strategies to address overfishing of the striped mullet.

[FDA: Fruit pouches may have been tainted with lead intentionally](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 18, 2023

Politico is reporting that FDA's Deputy Commissioner for Human Foods Jim Jones said, so far, the investigation signals an intentional act on the part of someone in the supply chain.

[Likely source of E.coli pollution in Havelock's Slocum Creek identified](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 18, 2023

Water testing this summer at the public boating access at Slocum Creek continually showed high levels of E. coli, and further DNA testing by Sound Rivers showed the source was human.

[Havelock case decision: State high court says a gun-related crime can happen in any public space, not just highway](#)

[Associated Press](#)

December 18, 2023

A North Carolina crime originating in English common law that occurs when an armed person tries to terrify the public doesn't require that it occur on a public highway, the state Supreme Court ruled on Friday.

[Confederate memorial to be removed in coming days from Arlington National Cemetery](#)

[Associated Press](#)

December 18, 2023

A Confederate memorial is to be removed from Arlington National Cemetery in northern Virginia in the coming days, part of the push to remove symbols that commemorate the Confederacy from military-related facilities, a cemetery official said Saturday.

[Nor'easter that blew into eastern North Carolina Sunday is expected to continue to impact parts of the region](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 18, 2023

Meteorologists with the National Weather Service in Newport say moderate to major soundside flooding is possible along the Pamlico and Pungo Rivers. Large waves are expected for beaches from Rodanthe to Surf City. A high surf advisory is in effect.

[Some NC cities sign on to \\$10 billion PFAS settlements, others opt out](#)

[Ryan Shaffer](#)

December 14, 2023

Today, one of two major settlements between chemical producers and cities across the nation could be approved by courts. The first of the two settlements includes Dupont, Chemours and Corteva, settling lawsuits over PFAS contamination to the tune of a billion dollars — but not all eligible cities in North Carolina are signing on.

[Proprietor says NCRR easement dispute is putting fate of century-old building at risk](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 12, 2023

The owner of a New Bern business claims the facility is in jeopardy amid a dispute with North Carolina Railroad Company about a property easement.

### [NC AG urging SCOTUS to clarify that states have authority to regulate social media](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 12, 2023

Attorney General Josh Stein said social media companies have designed and targeted their apps at the expense of the health and safety of kids, and he urged the Supreme Court to make it clear that states have the right to regulate them.

### [Statewide “Booze It & Lose It” campaign underway through Jan. 1](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 12, 2023

It’s intended to raise awareness and deter people from driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

### [\\$3 million DEQ dollars will support living shoreline project in Morehead City](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 12, 2023

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality’s Division of Coastal Management has received more than \$3 million dollars to provide final engineering and design technical help for a local coastal resiliency project.

### [\\$1 million in grants will benefit two eastern North Carolina state parks](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 12, 2023

The N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation announced end-of-year funding today totaling more than \$13 million, some of which will benefit two eastern North Carolina parks.

### [Vehicle insurance regulation review could result in lower premiums](#)

[Colin Campbell, WUNC](#)

December 12, 2023

State lawmakers are reviewing North Carolina's complicated system of auto insurance regulations. A House committee thinks insurance premiums could be lowered.

### [New Harkers Island bridge opens Tuesday](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 12, 2023

The NCDOT will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony at 11:00 a.m. in Beaufort.

### [City, water quality experts still looking for source of Neuse River E. coli contamination](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 12, 2023

The source of ongoing Neuse River pollution continues to evade Sound Rivers, the City of Kinston and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality.

### [Several boat rescues near Topsail Inlet during Monday storms](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 12, 2023

Emergency crews responded to several boats in distress Monday morning near Topsail Inlet, in southeastern North Carolina.

[Snow Hill couple in federal court Tuesday, accused of assaulting officers during U.S. Capitol riot](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 12, 2023

An Eastern North Carolina couple will be in a federal courtroom on Tuesday to face charges in the January 6th attack on the U.S. Capitol.

[New Bern to consider adopting gunshot detection system](#)  
[Ryan Shaffer](#)

December 11, 2023

If approved, the ShotSpotter system will be installed in a single square mile of New Bern. Police Chief Patrick Gallagher says it will help officers arrive more quickly and more often to incidents of gunfire.

LISTEN • 4:42

[Speeding stop leads to gun, drug and child abuse charges for couple](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 8, 2023

Deputies with the Craven County Sheriff's Office pulled over Victoria Church and David Barnhill, Jr. on Hwy 70 in James City, after they say Church was caught driving 70 mph in a 55 mph zone.

[State officials say North Carolina's investment in early literacy is paying off](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 8, 2023

New data presented to the State Board of Education shows that elementary school students continue to make significant improvements in their reading skills.

[NC governor urges federal officials to ensure contraception is affordable and accessible](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 8, 2023

North Carolina's governor is among many calling on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to ensure that all forms of contraception are affordable and accessible.

[More NC high school students taking an AP class for college credit than ever before](#)

Liz Schlemmer

December 8, 2023

High school students can earn college credit by taking Advanced Placement, or AP, classes if they receive a passing score on a standardized exam for the course.

[N.C. attorney general suing NCAA over transfer portal restrictions](#)  
[Jason deBruyn, WUNC](#)

December 8, 2023

The lawsuit argues college athletes should be allowed to transfer universities as many times as they wish without penalty.

[Michigan State poised to hire UNC-Chapel Hill's Kevin Guskiewicz as president](#)  
[WUNC](#)

December 8, 2023

Michigan State University has called a special meeting for Friday, where its Board of Trustees is expected to hire UNC-Chapel Hill chancellor Kevin Guskiewicz as its next president.

[Owner of a chain oyster bar in ENC admitted to pocketing almost \\$100,000 in state tax dollars](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 8, 2023

The owner of a chain oyster bar restaurant in eastern North Carolina admitted he pocketed almost \$100,000 in tax dollars that were supposed to go to the state.

[Dredging detour temporarily makes Hatteras-Okracoke route 20 minutes longer](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 8, 2023

Riders will spend a little more time getting to their destination on one North Carolina ferry route.

[No reelection campaign for Democratic representative after North Carolina GOP redrew U.S. House map](#)  
[Associated Press](#)

December 8, 2023

U.S. Rep. Kathy Manning announced Thursday that she will not file under lines that state election data suggests could net Republicans at least three more seats. Manning's district is now considered a GOP-leaning district.

[Large-scale batteries at Camp Lejeune taken offline after concerns about supplier's links to China's Communist Party](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 8, 2023

Duke Energy officials said the company has disconnected large-scale batteries made by Chinese company CATL from Marine Corps base Camp Lejeune after lawmakers and experts raised concerns about the supplier's close links to China's Communist Party.

[FDA inspecting Ecuador plant that made recalled fruit pouches with high lead levels that sickened U.S. children](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 8, 2023

The United States Food and Drug Administration is investigating the overseas plant that made applesauce pouches that contained high levels of lead, sickening dozens of children in the U.S. and sparking a massive recall.

[Lejeune toxic water victims are fighting for jury trials](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 8, 2023

Lawyers for Camp Lejeune toxic water victims are fighting what they say is a "misguided" effort by the government to ban jury trials in thousands of claims for compensation.

[UNLV gunman, a former ECU professor, had a target list of victims at both universities](#)

[By RIO YAMAT and BEN FINLEY, Associated Press](#)

December 8, 2023

The 67-year-old gunman who killed three faculty members and wounded a fourth in a roughly 10-minute rampage at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, had a list of targets at the school and more than 150 rounds of ammunition, police said Thursday.

[Suspected UNLV gunman, 67, was an ECU associate professor for nearly 16 years, from 2001-2017](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 7, 2023

The man suspected of opening fire at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas on Wednesday, killing three people and wounding a fourth, has been identified by Las Vegas Metro Sheriff Kevin McMahon as former East Carolina University Professor Anthony Polito.

[Onslow school board addresses misconduct claims, approves weapon detection system for high schools](#)

[Ryan Shaffer](#)

December 7, 2023

The Chairman of the Onslow County School Board addressed allegations of improper conduct over the superintendent's contract extension. The board also voted unanimously to move forward with installing Evolv weapons detection systems at its high schools.

[Three North Carolina Marines were found dead in a car with unconnected exhaust pipes, autopsies show](#)

[Associated Press](#)

December 7, 2023

The car where three Marines died of accidental carbon monoxide poisoning in North Carolina in July had unconnected and rusted exhaust pipes, according to autopsy findings released on Wednesday.

[Tuskegee airman reported missing nearly 80 years ago brought home to be buried in North Carolina](#)

[WFAE](#)

December 7, 2023

Nearly 80 years after his P-51 Mustang went missing on a mission over Italy during World War Two, Second Lieutenant Fred Brewer is being laid to rest in Salisbury.

[Chemours expanding testing for PFAS contamination in private wells in southeastern North Carolina](#)

[Kelly Batchelor](#)

December 7, 2023

At the N.C. Dept. of Environmental Quality's direction, Chemours is expanding sampling for PFAS contamination in private drinking water wells in New Hanover, Brunswick, Columbus, and Pender counties.

[McHenry's surprise departure has ripple effect for NC primaries](#)

[Colin Campbell, WUNC](#)

December 7, 2023

Candidates vying to replace North Carolina Congressman Patrick McHenry face deadlines next week to enter the race.



### [Most NC Democrats support resolution declaring that that “anti-Zionism is antisemitism”](#)

Steve Harrison

December 7, 2023

Most North Carolina Congressional Democrats voted yesterday in favor of a Republican-drafted House resolution declaring that that “anti-Zionism is antisemitism.”

### [State officials warn of Medicare and Affordable Care Act scams as open enrollment nears end](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

December 7, 2023

State officials are warning people in North Carolina about Medicare and Affordable Care Act scams as the end of the open enrollment period nears.

### [One of the most recognizable Corolla wild horse mares has died](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

December 7, 2023

Officials with the Corolla Wild Horse fund say 25-year-old Daisy became ill in mid-October and was taken to the farm to be examined, but died overnight.

### [Hawksbill Sea Turtle, usually seen in the tropics, found stunned by cold on NC coast](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

December 7, 2023

The STAR Center is rehabilitating a cold-stunned turtle of a species that isn’t often found along the North Carolina coast.

### [Hotel owner in ENC killed by squatter, police say suspect took his own life after hours-long standoff](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

December 7, 2023

An eastern North Carolina hotel owner and a suspect died amid an armed standoff in Newport.

### [US military grounds entire fleet of Osprey aircraft following a deadly crash off the coast of Japan](#)

Associated Press

December 7, 2023

The military announced late Wednesday it was grounding all of its Osprey V-22 helicopters, one week after eight Air Force Special Operations Command service members died in a crash off the coast of Japan.

### [A quest to find the nation's first Black female novelist](#)

Ryan Shaffer

December 6, 2023

Hannah Crafts is the author of *The Bondswoman’s Narrative*, a novel written in the mid-1800s but first published in 2003. Hannah Crafts was a pen name and tracking her down was a quest decades in the making.

[NC schools, healthcare will benefit from settlement with SC "pill mill"](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 6, 2023

North Carolina's attorney general has reached a settlement with a doctor's office accused of being a pill mill and filing false claims with Medicare and Medicaid for unnecessary drug tests and lengthy office visits that never happened.

[988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: NC outperforming national averages in several key areas](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 6, 2023

State health officials are tracking the ways the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is being used in North Carolina.

[Tim Moore defends new Congressional map as he files to run](#)

[Rusty Jacobs, WUNC](#)

December 6, 2023

State House Speaker Tim Moore has filed to run for Congress next year in a district that a federal lawsuit claims has been racially gerrymandered by GOP lawmakers.

[North Carolina Rep. McHenry, who led House through speaker stalemate, won't seek reelection in 2024](#)

[Gary D. Robertson, Associated Press](#)

December 6, 2023

North Carolina Rep. Patrick McHenry, who presided temporarily over the U.S. House for three intense weeks while Republicans struggled to elect a permanent speaker after Kevin McCarthy's ouster, announced Tuesday that he won't seek reelection to his seat next year.

[North Carolina farms were properly approved to collect energy from hog waste, court says](#)

[Associated Press](#)

December 6, 2023

Several hog farms in North Carolina were properly allowed to collect energy from the animals' waste, a state appeals court said Tuesday, ruling that their permit applications were scrutinized appropriately before their approval.

[Martin General Hospital patients will have access to paper medical records](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 6, 2023

Martin County General Hospital patients will soon be able to pick up their medical records.

[Lifelong Harkers Island resident, 103, takes VIP tour of new bridge to mainland](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 6, 2023

A 103-year-old man who has lived on Harkers Island for all of his life took a VIP ride across the new bridge connecting the island to the mainland before it opens later this week.

[Maysville opens the spigot on new water treatment plant 4.5 years after PFAS contamination](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 5, 2023

A small eastern North Carolina town is again providing the people who live there with drinking water, more than four years after its well was found to be contaminated by forever chemicals. “Naturally Welcoming” Maysville is leading a path forward for other communities across the state dealing with PFAS in their wells.

[State law will require computer science classes in all North Carolina middle and high schools](#)  
[WUNC](#)

December 5, 2023

Beginning in Fall 2026, North Carolina students will have to complete at least one computer science course to graduate high school.

[NC Dems reverse course, approve Jewish caucus after negative publicity](#)

Steve Harrison

December 5, 2023

The North Carolina Democratic Party on Sunday voted to formally recognize the Jewish Caucus as an official organization. The decision came after the party narrowly rejected the caucus last month amid tensions over the war between Israel and Hamas.

[NC Capitol Christmas tree honors lives lost on roads across the state](#) December 5, 2023

The Christmas tree on the state capitol grounds is decorated with 1,798 ornament bulbs to represent each life lost on North Carolina roads in 2022.

[Election 2024: Candidate filing underway in North Carolina](#)

[Kelly Batchelor](#)

December 5, 2023

Candidate filing for North Carolina elections next year has opened at the state election board in Raleigh and local board offices in all 100 counties.

[New North Carolina congressional districts challenged in federal court on racial bias claims](#)

[Rusty Jacobs, WUNC](#)

December 5, 2023

A group of Black and Latino voters is suing top Republican state lawmakers in federal court over North Carolina's newly drawn Congressional map.

[Tis' the season ... for online purchases, package deliveries, and scammers](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 5, 2023

Officials with the Better Business Bureau Serving Eastern Carolinas said there is a new twist on delivery scams this year.

### [NC Ferry maintenance facility could be coming to Craven County](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 5, 2023

A new federal grant will help the N.C. Department of Transportation's Ferry Division improve customer service.

### [December sea turtle nest discovered, latest ever laid in eastern North Carolina](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 5, 2023

People in North Carolina aren't the only creatures enjoying a string of warm days in December. On Sunday, park biologists at Cape Hatteras National Seashore found a Green sea turtle nest.

### [Celebrate Shelter Pets Day celebrated in ENC and statewide](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

December 5, 2023

The first-ever Celebrate Shelter Pets Day was held this week at the Craven County Animal Services shelter.

### [Who is Hannah Crafts? Biography of first Black female novelist released](#)

[Ryan Shaffer](#)

December 1, 2023

Gregg Hecimovich began researching Hannah Crafts while at East Carolina University in the early 2000s. Now after two decades, he's published a biography of the nation's first known Black female novelist.

### [Garbage truck with container elevated damaged overhead sign, pedestrian bridge in James City](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

November 30, 2023

Traffic on Highway 70 Westbound in James City has been backed up in James City for most of the morning on Thursday after a trash truck with its container elevated hit an overhead exit marker sign and then the Pedestrian Bridge near Elder Street.

### ["Operation Deployed Santa" will provide children in at-risk neighborhoods in Onslow County with toys for Christmas](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 30, 2023

The Onslow County Sheriff's Office and its partners are participating in "Operation Deployed Santa" to provide children in at-risk neighborhoods with toys for Christmas and a visit from Santa.

### [Murphy will vote to expel Santos after scathing ethics report](#)

[Ryan Shaffer](#)

, November 30, 2023

Republican Representative Greg Murphy of North Carolina says he'll vote to expel New York Representative George Santos, following a scathing report from the House Ethics Committee.

[Hearing Thursday in Cooper's suit over the reshaping of state and local elections boards](#)

[Rusty Jacobs, WUNC](#)

, November 30, 2023

A hearing in Wake County Superior Court Thursday could help determine whether Republican legislators went too far with a law aimed at reshaping North Carolina's state and local elections boards.

[Former patients at shuttered ENC hospital now have access to medical records](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 30, 2023

Former Martin General Hospital patients now have digital access to their medical records.

[Municipal election results certified](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 30, 2023

The State Board of Elections has certified the results of the October and November 2023 municipal elections in North Carolina.

[SBI requests Martin County personnel records amid lawsuit filed by commissioners](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 30, 2023

The State Bureau of Investigations has served Martin County government with a search warrant for personnel records.

[First North Atlantic right whale calf of the season spotted near the Carolina coast](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 29, 2023

Researchers have identified the first North Atlantic right whale mom and calf pair of the 2023-2024 season off the coast of South Carolina.

[Christmas tree prices in North Carolina expected to be about the same as last year](#)

[Nick de la Canal, WFAE](#)

, November 29, 2023

With Thanksgiving over, many North Carolinians are heading out to purchase Christmas trees at farms and tree lots, and prices are expected to be about the same or slightly higher than last year.

[Survey of Lexington cemetery finds more than 30 potential unmarked grave sites](#)

[Paul Garber / WFDD](#)

, November 29, 2023

A survey of the Lexington City Cemetery has identified more than 30 possible sites where enslaved people were buried in unmarked graves.

[Fresh fruit recalled after listeria outbreak sold in North Carolina](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 29, 2023

Peaches, nectarines and plums connected to a deadly Listeria outbreak were sold in North Carolina.

[North Carolina siblings killed by father in murder suicide](#)  
[WFDD](#)

, November 29, 2023

The Winston-Salem Police Department is investigating a murder-suicide that took place early Tuesday morning.

[People in town that gets its drinking water from the Cape Fear River are being tested for P-FAS](#)  
[WHQR](#)

, November 29, 2023

People in the predominantly Black community of Navassa in Brunswick County that gets its drinking water from the Cape Fear River are being tested for P-FAS exposure.

[Medicaid expansion to provide billions to NC hospitals, state coffers](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 29, 2023

Nearly \$2.6 billion will be distributed to more than 100 hospitals across North Carolina this week as part of Medicaid expansion legislation

[One year later, sheriff provides update about substation shooting investigation](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 29, 2023

Nearly a year after two electrical substations were shot several times, taking them offline for days and putting a huge area of a North Carolina county in the dark, law enforcement agencies are offering updates on the investigation.

[More than 130,000 claims made under Camp Lejeune Justice Act](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 29, 2023

Recent court documents show the U.S. Navy has received nearly 130,000 Camp Lejeune water contamination claims, but only a small percentage of them have been filed in the U.S. Eastern District Court of North Carolina.

[SECU expands tier-based pricing following contentious board election](#)  
[Ryan Shaffer](#)

, November 21, 2023

Tier-based pricing, or rate-based-lending, was a central issue in SECU's October elections to its Board of Directors. In that election, three challengers who oppose the practice unseated the board's preferred candidates.

[NC Appeals Court rules against NCDEQ in animal waste permit case](#)  
[Ryan Shaffer](#)

, November 20, 2023

At the center of the case is whether the correct process was used for some changes to the general permit for animal waste management.

[NC man, a former Marine, charged with assaulting officers in U.S. Capitol riot](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 17, 2023

A North Carolina man has been arrested for his involvement in the Jan. 6 Capitol Breach.

[Police chief, others accused of providing security for events and pocketing the payments](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 17, 2023

The Town of Pilot Mountain is accusing its now-former police chief of defrauding a local non-profit by providing off-duty security for community events and pocketing the payments.

[Coast Guard rescues sailor adrift of the coast of Hatteras](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 17, 2023

Coast Guard crews rescued an overdue boater about 270 miles off Cape Hatteras on Wednesday.

[Watch your pets, seal up their food ... it's coyote time in ENC](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 17, 2023

It's peak coyote sighting season in eastern North Carolina, but the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission says the canines are usually not a threat to people.

[Beloved river otter dies at ENC aquarium](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 17, 2023

The North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores says the American River Otter Neuse died in his sleep on Thursday after experiencing gastrointestinal issues.

['Tis the season; weekend Christmas parades and tree lighting ceremonies in ENC](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 17, 2023

The first holiday events of the season in eastern North Carolina take place on Saturday.

[Endangered snail that is only found in southeastern North Carolina reintroduced in the wild](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 17, 2023

After 20 years of living only in captivity, Magnificent Ramshorn has been returned to the wild.

[Overfishing could mean limits on striped mullet catches in eastern North Carolina](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 17, 2023

The N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission has voted to send the draft plan for management of the Striped Mullet for public and advisory committee review

[E.coli levels in Neuse River in Kinston still high, source remains under investigation](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 17, 2023

The Neuse Riverkeeper is still working to determine why a Swim Guide site in Kinston continues to have extremely high levels of bacteria.

[Sudden closure; NC DMV license plate agency permanently closed, under investigation](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 17, 2023

The North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles' Jacksonville License Plate Agency is closed until further notice.

[A whale calf died on an ENC beach from eating a balloon and an NC researcher says plastics are a danger to cetaceans](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 14, 2023

A live Gervais' Beaked Whale washed up in Emerald Isle recently and died soon after, and researchers say the female calf was killed by eating a plastic balloon. PRE's Annette Weston Riggs spoke with a North Carolina expert about why marine mammals swallow things like balloons and grocery bags, the dangers that fishing gear poses, and what we can do to help.

[DMV looking for someone to run Greenville license plate agency](#)

[Kelly Batchelor](#)

, November 14, 2023

The N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles is taking applications for a contractor to operate a license plate agency in Greenville.

[Wetland restoration underway at Wayne Community College](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 14, 2023

Sound Rivers Program Director Clay Barber said the wetland that is "very out of maintenance," and the organization is taking it back to the original design by N.C. State University.

[NC Medicaid expansion will give hundreds of thousands living in poverty access to health coverage for the first time](#)

[David Ford, WFDD](#)

, November 14, 2023

Beginning next month, Medicaid expansion takes place in North Carolina, giving hundreds of thousands of people living in poverty access to coverage for the very first time.

[Federal climate report shows North Carolina, other southeast states are growing warmer and more humid](#)

[David Boraks, WFAE](#)

, November 14, 2023

A new federal report out Tuesday offers the latest data on the effects of climate change and what we're doing to adapt.



[NC AG files brief in SCOTUS case that could give some veterans expanded educational benefits.](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 14, 2023

James R. Rudisill's case against the Secretary of Veterans Affairs centers on his qualification for educational benefits under both the Post-9/11 and Montgomery GI Bill programs.

[NC toxic lead case expands, CDC says 22 toddlers in 14 states were sickened by lead-tainted fruit pouches](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 14, 2023

After high lead levels in several North Carolina children led to a recall of fruit pouches, U.S. health officials say at least 22 toddlers in 14 states were sickened by the snack.

[Public health alert issued in NC after the deaths of several babies from congenital syphilis](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 14, 2023

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services has issued a public health alert after the deaths of several babies from congenital syphilis.

[Three people accept settlements for injuries from toxic water at Camp Lejeune, two payouts already made](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 14, 2023

More than a year after a federal law that provides for compensation to people affected by contaminated water at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune was put in place, the government has made its first settlement offers and payments.

[Five Army Special Operations soldiers killed in helicopter crash near Cyprus](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 13, 2023

Five American service members were killed in a crash late Friday after their helicopter had a "mishap" during a training exercise and went into the eastern Mediterranean Sea.

[Third flu death in NC, uptick in COVID-19 virus in wastewater testing](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 13, 2023

The first flu deaths this season were reported at the end of October, and officials with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services said all three of the deaths have been among adults; two of them were over the age of 65; the other was between 25-49.

[V.A. will cover Parkinson's Disease treatment to military families exposed to Camp Lejeune toxic water](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 13, 2023

The federal government will cover the cost of Parkinson's disease treatment for the families of veterans who served at Camp Lejeune between 1953 and 1987, during the time the drinking water on base was contaminated.

[Pamlico photographer Andrea Bruce takes a 'small town approach' to local and international news](#)  
Ryan Shaffer

, November 13, 2023

From covering wars in the Middle East to school board meetings in rural Pamlico County, photographer Andrea Bruce takes the same approach — the 'small town' approach.

[Veterans organizations decry settlement program for Camp Lejeune toxic water exposure victims](#)  
Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 10, 2023

More than twenty veterans' organizations sent a letter to Congress expressing their disappointment in the Departments of the Navy and Justice's new "elective option" settlement program for victims of toxic water exposure at Camp Lejeune.

[Several ENC communities honoring those who have served on Veterans Day](#)  
Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 10, 2023

Several eastern North Carolina communities will honor those who served on Veterans Day.

[Several with ENC ties inducted into North Carolina Military Hall of Firsts](#)  
Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 10, 2023

The first woman to serve in the North Carolina National Guard – who also designed the original Pepsi logo – the "Father of the Airborne", one of the first Montford Point Marines, and the state's first African-American radio announcer were among those inducted into the 2023 class of the North Carolina Military Hall of Firsts.

[Deputies injured in shootout with suspect are expected to make a full recovery](#)  
Associated Press

, November 9, 2023

The sheriff's office in a southeastern North Carolina county where two deputies were seriously wounded while attempting to arrest a wanted man says both are expected to make a full recovery.

[State of emergency declared as wildfires burn in western NC amid drought conditions](#)  
Associated Press

, November 9, 2023

The declaration makes it easier to coordinate the emergency response and ensure the right equipment and people get into place to fight the fires.

[New NC law that takes effect next month targets drug overdose epidemic](#)  
Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 9, 2023

Beginning next month, law enforcement will be able to charge anyone who gives illegal drugs to another person without having to prove it was done through a sale.

### [EPA asks Chemours to pause import of GenX waste from Netherlands to North Carolina](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 9, 2023

After North Carolina's Governor urged the Environmental Protection Agency to reverse the decision to allow the import of forever chemicals for disposal, EPA requested that Chemours pause imports of the waste from the Netherlands to its Fayetteville facility.

### [NC DMVA: turn your porch lights green to show support for veterans](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 9, 2023

The North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is urging everyone this Veterans Week to turn their outside lights green in honor of servicemen and women.

### [Police release images of SUV involved in string of Halloween BB gun shootings](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 9, 2023

Jacksonville Police said the shootings took place between 8:45 and 9:30 p.m. on Halloween in the areas of Brynn Marr, Ashley Park Apartments and the Jacksonville Mall.

### [Governors call for more funds to secure places of worship as threats toward Jews and Muslims rise](#)

[Associated Press](#)

, November 9, 2023

Democratic governors across the country are sending a joint letter to leaders in Congress calling for additional funds for security at places of worship.

### [EPA asks Chemours to pause shipments of forever chemical waste from Netherlands to NC](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 8, 2023

After North Carolina's Governor urged the Environmental Protection Agency to reverse the decision to allow the import of forever chemicals for disposal, EPA requested that Chemours pause imports of the waste from the Netherlands to its Fayetteville facility.

### [Outgoing NC House Speaker formally announces bid for U.S. House in 2024](#)

[Associated Press](#)

, November 8, 2023

North Carolina state House Speaker Tim Moore has formally announced his bid for the U.S. House.

### [NC AG sues company over inflated food prices](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 8, 2023

North Carolina's attorney general joined the United States' civil antitrust lawsuit against Agri Stats for working with chicken, pork, and turkey processors to artificially inflate the price of food.

[North Carolina police chief on administrative leave, investigation of department underway](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 8, 2023

The Town of Pilot Mountain has placed its police chief on administrative leave, with pay, and officials say the police department is under investigation.

[Sheriff frustrated with pre-trial release of murder suspect that shot two deputies](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 8, 2023

The sheriff in a North Carolina county says that two deputies and a suspect were shot on Tuesday, and he expressed frustration that a murder suspect had been released from jail on bond before the shootings.

[42 dogs rescued from squalid ENC home, two euthanized](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 8, 2023

Officials say dozens of dogs were rescued from squalid conditions at a home in Craven County after the sheriff's office was asked to check on the animals at the house on Golden Road. Two of the dogs had to be euthanized.

[CMAST: beached whale calf in ENC died from ingesting a balloon](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 8, 2023

A live Gervais' Beaked Whale washed up in ENC and died soon after, and researchers say a necropsy found the female calf died from ingesting a plastic balloon.

[Boil water order issued for Brice's Creek subdivision customers after water main break](#)

Kelly Batchelor

, November 8, 2023

A water main break in the Hunter's Ridge subdivision on Tuesday has county water customers in Brice's Creek experiencing low or no water pressure and has prompted a boil order.

[New Duke study shows personal information of service members is being sold on the web](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 8, 2023

A new study shows the personal information of U.S. military personnel is for sale on the Internet for just pennies per record.

[Randomly select precincts in NC counties will be audited Wednesday following municipal elections](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 8, 2023

State Board of Elections staff will randomly select precincts, early voting sites, and absentee-by-mail ballots to be counted by hand Wednesday as part of a required audit for the municipal elections.

[Greenville mayor reelected, new mayors chosen in two ENC communities](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, November 8, 2023

Eastern North Carolina municipal election results for 2023.

### [Embattled eCourts system will roll out in several ENC counties early next year](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 3, 2023

The North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts announced that Beaufort, Currituck, Dare, Hyde, Martin, Tyrell and Washington Counties will be among those to start using the eCourts system in February.

### [Construction underway on behavioral health facility in Greenville](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 3, 2023

ECU Health and Acadia Healthcare have started construction on a 144-bed behavioral health hospital in Greenville.

### [Several ENC communities receive grants to build affordable housing](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 3, 2023

Several eastern North Carolina communities will receive nearly \$30 million collectively from the N.C. Office of Recovery and Resiliency's Affordable Housing Development Fund.

### [Another area in North Carolina closed because of bear activity, second this week](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, November 3, 2023

North Carolina State Parks and Recreation officials advise visitors to always use caution in bear country.

### [Flamenco troupe brings world-class performance to ENC schools](#)

[Ryan Shaffer](#)

, November 1, 2023

The troupe usually performs before large crowds in major cities worldwide, but today they have to entertain a crowd of 300 elementary school students.

### [Halloween candy myths and legends and the real safety concerns for trick-or-treating kids](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 31, 2023

For about 40 years, a professor of sociology and criminal justice at the University of Delaware has been debunking an urban legend that just won't die.

### [Myths about bats and the perils they face; ENC could be key to species recovery after White Nose Syndrome](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 31, 2023

Bat week is wrapping up on Tuesday The annual celebration coincides with Halloween and recognizes the many roles they play in the ecosystem and is meant to raise greater awareness of conservation efforts worldwide.

[PRE Interviews: Dr. Stephen Loyd  
Ryan Shaffer](#)

, October 26, 2023

Loyd is a leading figure in addiction medicine, but you may know him, or at least his story, from the Hulu miniseries Dopesick, whose main character is largely based off of him.

[State Health Plan may end coverage for weight loss drugs](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 26, 2023

The State Health Plan Board of Trustees is considering ending coverage of drugs like Wegovy and Saxenda for the purpose of weight loss, and the state treasurer is calling on the drug maker to price the drugs fairly.

[State officials want to learn more about about the challenges businesses are facing through survey](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 26, 2023

North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office has released the first in a series of online surveys to over 10,000 businesses, seeking feedback. The NC Business Engagement Survey, which is conducted by researchers at East Carolina University, are working to track changing conditions and identify regional trends.

[Former Camp Lejeune Marine pleads guilty to neo-Nazi plot to attack U.S. energy infrastructure.](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 26, 2023

A former Camp Lejeune Marine has pled guilty to several counts connected to a neo-Nazi plot to attack U.S. energy infrastructure.

[Another application period open for colleges and government agencies to have IDs approved for voting](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 26, 2023

The N.C. State Board of Elections is opening another application period for colleges and government agencies to apply to have their student and employee photo IDs approved for voting purposes in the 2024 elections.

[Pediatric specialist says said TB is not a disease often seen in children in the U.S.](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 26, 2023

Tuberculosis testing was conducted last week at D.H. Conley High School, after someone was diagnosed with the lung infection and the Pitt County Health Department identified about 130 students and 20 staff members as potential contacts.

[Booze It & Lose It: Annual Halloween impaired driving enforcement to keep trick-or-treaters safe](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 26, 2023

Through Oct. 31, police statewide will be increasing patrols and using checkpoints to keep impaired drivers off the road as little ones in costumes knock on doors for treats and attend other holiday events.

### [Newly approved legislative district maps likely to face litigation](#)

[Rusty Jacobs, WUNC](#)

, October 26, 2023

The GOP-dominated North Carolina General Assembly has signed off on new Congressional and state legislative district maps. The plans are likely to face litigation.

### [NC lawmakers react to Rep. Mike Johnson's rise to Speaker of the House](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 26, 2023

North Carolina lawmakers are reacting after Mike Johnson, of Louisiana, was elected Speaker of the House Wednesday afternoon.

### [Sen. Budd: North Carolina hostages among those held by Hamas in Gaza](#)

[Bradley George](#)

, October 26, 2023

Republican U.S. Senator Ted Budd says North Carolinians are among the more than 200 hostages held by Hamas in Gaza.

### [New Bern police chief asks for gunshot detection system at city meeting](#)

[Ryan Shaffer](#)

, October 25, 2023

The police chief has asked the Board to purchase the ShotSpotter system for two years now. It was left out of this year's budget, so Gallagher is looking to get the system as soon as possible. He said he's looking to attract sponsors to fund the \$50,000 annual system.

### [42 states sue Meta over youth mental health crisis, data privacy violations](#)

[Ryan Shaffer](#)

, October 25, 2023

A lawsuit filed today by North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein and 41 other state attorneys general alleges the social media giant Meta illegally collects data on preteens and is contributing to a youth mental health crisis by designing its platforms to be as addictive as possible.

### [PRE: Today's eastern North Carolina regional news](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 25, 2023

Some of the stories we're following during Morning Edition on Public Radio East.

### [Annual full-scale exercise underway Tuesday at MCAS Cherry Point](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 24, 2023

Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point is conducting its annual full-scale exercise Tuesday to prove effectiveness of its plans for responding to real-world emergencies.

[NCIS investigating man's TikTok claims that he helped bury body aboard Camp Lejeune](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 24, 2023

The Marine Corps is investigating claims a man made on social media to have helped bury a body at Camp Lejeune.

[Marine killed in barracks shooting identified, second Marine detained](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 23, 2023

A Marine killed in a shooting at Camp Lejeune has been identified as a 19-year-old lance corporal from eastern North Carolina.

[ENC village, nonprofit partner to determine source of bacteria in local creek](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 23, 2023

The Village of Simpson is partnering with Sound Rivers to determine the source of pollution of Bate's Branch, a tributary of the Tar River.

[Four rescued from overturned yacht off North Carolina coast](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 23, 2023

The four people were found near the boat in a covered life raft and rescued by a helicopter crew.

[40th anniversary of Beirut bombing that killed 241 Marines and Sailors – many from Camp Lejeune](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 23, 2023

Monday is the 40th anniversary of the Beirut bombing that killed 241 United States Marine Corps and Navy service members – many from Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune.

[NCDOT officials, Secretary Hopkins provide updates at New Bern conference](#)

[Ryan Shaffer](#)

, October 19, 2023

NCDOT Secretary Joey Hopkins was one of many state and local transportation officials who spoke today in New Bern to provide updates on U.S. 70 and other state projects.

[Do you know who you're voting for? Pitt County website informs voters on local elections](#)

[Ryan Shaffer](#)

, October 19, 2023

A Pitt County nonpartisan voter information organization aims to provide information to voters about local candidates, and in turn, boost turnout.

[North Carolina State Health Plan members will see lower prescription drug costs in 2024](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 19, 2023

After the first of the year, North Carolina State Health Plan members will see lower prescription drug costs at the pharmacy.



[Two cases of mpox identified, at-risk people urged to get vaccinated](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, October 19, 2023

The state health department is encouraging people in a high-risk category to get the mpox vaccine following two recent cases were identified.

[Friday ceremony will honor first responders who died in the line of duty](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, October 19, 2023

A service on Friday will remember and honor first responders who died in the line of duty in Onslow County.

[Stella man's dog, wallet and cellphone were found on boat before his body was found in White Oak River](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, October 19, 2023

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission has identified a man who drowned in the White Oak River Monday morning in Onslow County.

[U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means visits Beaufort and Pitt counties to discuss rural healthcare](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, October 19, 2023

Members of the U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means visited Beaufort and Pitt counties this week to talk about the challenges facing rural health care in America.

[Tuberculosis testing Friday at ENC high school after case identified](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, October 19, 2023

Tuberculosis testing is being offered Friday at an eastern North Carolina high school after a case was found at the school.

[Imported shrimp prompt resolution in support of ENC fishing community](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, October 19, 2023

The Onslow County Board of Commissioners issued a proclamation in support of the county's commercial fishermen.

[Early voting underway Thursday in NC, photo ID required](#)

Sascha Cordner

, October 19, 2023

Following a state Supreme Court ruling over the summer that revives a 2018 law, state election officials say it's important that all voters are aware of the new photo I-D requirement.

### [A new North Carolina Congressional map would give the GOP a clear advantage](#)

Steve Harrison

, October 19, 2023

Republicans currently have a 5-2 majority on the North Carolina Supreme Court. That means the only brake on North Carolina map-makers is if federal courts find they engaged in racial gerrymandering.

### [A NC man's death is under investigation after his body was mistaken for a training dummy](#)

Associated Press

, October 19, 2023

Police in North Carolina are investigating the death of a man who officers say was mistaken for a training dummy before being recovered at an abandoned log cabin.

### [Marine killed in Camp Lejeune barracks, fellow Marine in custody](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, October 19, 2023

A Marine was killed at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Wednesday night, and a fellow Marine has been taken into custody.

### [What's in the new Red Wolf Recovery Plan?](#)

Ryan Shaffer

, October 18, 2023

Released on Sept. 29, the updated plan calls for more releases of captive red wolves into the wild, sustained efforts to curb human-caused deaths, and strong practices to curb interbreeding with coyotes, among other things.

### [Gov. Cooper suing to block a new law giving the NC legislature more power over elections](#)

Colin Campbell, WUNC

, October 18, 2023

The governor currently appoints the board, with a majority of its members from his political party. The new board will have four Democrats and four Republicans picked by legislative leaders.

### [Another federal lawsuit challenging provisions in a new North Carolina elections law](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, October 18, 2023

Another federal lawsuit has been filed challenging provisions in a new North Carolina elections law that critics contend will discourage young adults from voting through a popular method.

### [ECU federal grant will support pollution prevention in disadvantaged communities.](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

, October 18, 2023

East Carolina University has received a half-million-dollar federal grant to support pollution prevention in disadvantaged communities.

[U.S. Attorney's office: NC man made email threats towards a Charlotte Jewish organization](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 18, 2023

The FBI has arrested a Troy man after he made threats towards a Charlotte Jewish organization.

[Town hall on children and social media use in New Bern on Thursday](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 18, 2023

North Carolina's Attorney General will hold a town hall on children and social media use in New Bern on Thursday.

[First conviction for death by impaired boating in NC sends man to prison for 9-18 years](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 18, 2023

A fatal boating crash has resulted in the first conviction of death by impaired boating in North Carolina.

[Drowning death on the White Oak River near Stella](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 18, 2023

A person drowned on the White Oak River near Stella, in Onslow County, on Monday.

[Seasonal respiratory virus circulating, rates lower than this time last year](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 18, 2023

Influenza and other respiratory viruses are starting to circulate but officials with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say so far, they remain lower than this time last year.

[NPS purchases OBX homes at risk of collapsing into the sea](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 18, 2023

The National Park Service is buying up homes in the Outer Banks that are at risk of falling into the sea because of beach erosion.

[Gas companies offer carbon offsets in NC to help customers make up for carbon emissions](#)

[David Boraks](#)

, October 17, 2023

There's lots of talk these days about replacing gas appliances with electric ones, to help cut our use of fossil fuels that cause global warming. Gas companies have another idea - buy carbon offsets.

[Applications open soon for childcare financial aid at Craven Community College](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 17, 2023

Craven Community College officials say childcare applications will be accepted by Financial Aid for the Spring 2024 semester beginning Nov. 1.

### [College Application Week: application fees waived at many NC institutions](#)

[Kelly Batchelor](#)

, October 17, 2023

This week, dozens of colleges around the state are waiving their fees to apply in an initiative known as College Application Week.

### [PETA victory over NC: U.S. Supreme Court refuses to hear "ag gag" law case](#)

[Bradley George](#)

, October 17, 2023

The U-S Supreme Court will not hear a dispute involving a North Carolina agriculture law. The decision is a major victory for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, more commonly known as PETA.

### [Environmental groups appeal NC's new rules that cut rooftop solar credits](#)

[David Boraks](#)

, October 17, 2023

Environmental groups are asking the North Carolina Court of Appeals to overturn Duke Energy's new rates and rules for residential rooftop solar panels that took effect October 1st.

### [ENC school district awarded sizable grant to build student skills in computer science through coding](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 17, 2023

The \$61,000 Coding and Mobile App Development grant to Bertie County Schools will help the district purchase equipment, digital materials and cover the costs of teacher professional development to build capacity in coding, computer science and mobile application development initiatives.

### [Another 3D printed artificial reef will be submerged near the mouth of the Pamlico River](#)

[Ryan Shaffer](#)

, October 17, 2023

In May of 2022, a similar artificial reef was deployed upstream near the mouth of Bath Creek.

### [USPS holding job fairs in Jacksonville and Kinston this week](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 17, 2023

The United States Postal Service (USPS) will be holding job fairs in Jacksonville and Kinston this week to fill immediate openings for full-time, part-time, and seasonal jobs.

### [Another fish kill reported on the Neuse River](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 17, 2023

While she spotted only a handful of dead fish along the shoreline, at the confluence of Northwest Creek and the Neuse River, Water Quality Specialist Taylor Register said hundreds of seagulls had amassed, likely to feed on the fish.

[Donors giving to help victims impacted by the Hamas attack on Israel advised to do so carefully](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 17, 2023

The Better Business Bureau Serving Eastern Carolinas is advising people that want to donate to help victims and families impacted by the Hamas attack on Israel and Israel's response to make sure they are doing so through accredited charities.

[ENC gas prices drop, analyst says they're likely to go even lower](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 17, 2023

Gas prices are down in North Carolina, and while an expert says they will likely continue to drop, the conflict in Israel brings in a little uncertainty.

[In-person early voting begins this week for ENC local elections](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 17, 2023

Voters will head to the polls on Election Day on Nov. 7 for municipal elections, and in-person early voting begins this week.

[Federal regulators approve North Carolina's Medicaid expansion](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 16, 2023

State health officials say federal regulators have given their final approval for North Carolina to begin offering Medicaid to hundreds of thousands of low-income adults on Dec. 1.

[Volunteer firefighters urgently needed in Pitt County and other areas](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 16, 2023

The North Carolina Association of Fire Chiefs is launching an urgent volunteer firefighter recruitment campaign across fourteen North Carolina departments and associations, including Pitt County.

[New law will increase penalties for death by distribution, will be equivalent to second-degree murder charges](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

, October 16, 2023

Law enforcement officials say the opioid crisis becomes a bigger issue in North Carolina each year, and changes to the death by distribution law that will soon take effect and will make consequences for offenders even tougher.

[Transgender residents in North Carolina, Montana file lawsuits challenging new state restrictions](#)

[Associated Press](#)

, October 13, 2023

The family of a transgender boy in North Carolina is suing state health officials to block implementation of gender-affirming care restrictions.

[State audit finds 6 schools did not comply with truancy laws, NCDPI disputes findings](#)

Ryan Shaffer

October 13, 2023

The audit published yesterday finds all six school districts did not perform required actions for students with three, six, and ten or more unexcused absences.

[PRE News](#)

[Rep. McHenry pushed by some Republicans to do more as temporary House Speaker](#)

Ryan Shaffer

October 13, 2023

As the temporary House Speaker, Rep. Patrick McHenry cannot schedule floor votes on legislation, but some House Republicans are urging him to test the limits of his authority as the caucus continues looking for its candidate.

[Tuberculosis case reported in Greenville high school](#)

Ryan Shaffer

October 13, 2023

In a letter to caregivers, the county health department and school district said there was no immediate risk from exposure but that they're investigating possible exposures.

[Greenville mass balloon release ordinance fails in close vote](#)

Ryan Shaffer

October 13, 2023

The proposed ordinance would have made it illegal to intentionally release more than 10 balloons outdoors at any one time or face a \$100 fine.

[Stein files brief in federal student loan case](#)

Ryan Shaffer

October 13, 2023

The case involves for profit colleges challenging the Dept. of Education's "Borrower's Defense Rule," which forgives federal loans for students if their school engaged in certain misconduct.

[Artists reclaim artifacts, create new narratives at new Greenville Museum of Art 'Marauders' exhibit](#)

Ryan Shaffer

October 11, 2023

The artists use images and ideas from archival research to create original works that explore concepts of storytelling, looting, appropriation and vigilantes.

[Watch your speed; annual speed limit enforcement underway in NC](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 11, 2023

Police are watching for speeders this week along North Carolina highways. The N.C. Governor's Highway Safety Program has begun 'Operation Crash Reduction.'

### [\\$1 million in state funding will support veterans experiencing mental health problems](#)

WUNC

October 11, 2023

The recently approved state budget includes more than a million dollars for the Veterans Justice Initiative program.

### [SECU board shake-up: Three voted out after concerns about new tier-based lending practices](#)

Ryan Shaffer

October 11, 2023

The members of State Employees' Credit Union ousted three members of their board of directors at this year's annual meeting.

### [More than 400 acres added to Goose Creek Game Lands](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 11, 2023

The Goose Creek Game lands are expanding, thanks to the addition of more than 400 waterfront acres in Pamlico County.

### [State treasurer criticizes lawmakers' exemption from public records laws](#)

Jason deBruyn, WUNC

October 11, 2023

North Carolina treasurer Dale Folwell joined a chorus of criticism against lawmakers exempting themselves from public records laws.

### [Overrides of Gov. Cooper's vetoes prompt lawsuits](#)

Colin Campbell, WUNC

October 11, 2023

State lawmakers voted Tuesday to override five of Governor Roy Cooper's vetoes and pass new election laws, and the election changes and board appointee legislation have already prompted lawsuits.

### [North Carolina lawmakers condemn Hamas attack on Israel](#)

Ryan Shaffer

October 11, 2023

Eastern North Carolina Representatives Democrat Don Davis and Republic Greg Murphy have signed on to a resolution condemning the Hamas attack on Israel, but it cannot be voted on until a new house speaker is elected. North Carolina lawmakers passed a pro-Israel resolution in the state House and read a pro-Israel statement onto the Senate's official record as the country's conflict with Hamas intensified Tuesday.

### [Back-to-back discoveries of two unrelated aquatic invasive species in North Carolina "unprecedented"](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 9, 2023

In September, there were two reports basically back-to-back of two new aquatic invasive species in the state, the zebra mussel and apple snails.

[A local teen with autism celebrates 600 episodes of The Jackson Robol Show](#)

Ryan Shaffer

October 6, 2023

In 2020, a Pitt County teen with autism started a show on Facebook called the Jackson Robol Show. He started small, interviewing local leaders. Now he's attracting big names and celebrating his 600th episode.

[Medicare open enrollment -- make sure your current coverage is what you need](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 5, 2023

Medicare beneficiaries in North Carolina are reminded to compare and evaluate their current plans and make necessary changes during the upcoming annual open enrollment period.

[State forest service asking people to burn cautiously as wildfire season approaches](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 5, 2023

It is wildfire season and the North Carolina Forest Service is urging people to be cautious when burning.

[State COVID-19 websites all fail accessibility standards for those with vision impairments](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 5, 2023

Coronavirus websites in the country's 50 states, including North Carolina, do not meet accessibility standards, meaning some who are visually impaired might not be able to access all information using screen readers and other accessibility tools.

[All high school seniors and their parents invited to learn more about attending college and career options](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 5, 2023

Craven Community College will host Community Senior Night for all public, private, home school and nontraditional high school seniors interested in learning about college and career options.

[Land and Water Fund grants approved for several ENC environmental projects](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 5, 2023

The North Carolina Land and Water Fund Board of Trustees has awarded financing for projects that will protect the state's land and water from the mountains to the coast.

[New Bern High School must repay \\$38,000 in revenue from 2022 football playoffs](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 5, 2023

New Bern High School will have to repay more than \$38,000, in revenue received during the 2022 4A football playoffs.



[Six Martin General Hospital clinics are closed after no buyer was found](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

October 5, 2023

Roanoke Orthopedics, Roanoke Surgical, Martin Family Medicine, Williamston Heart and Vascular, and Martin Specialty Clinics in Williamston and Rural Health Clinic in Plymouth are now closed.

[PRE will broadcast Emergency Alert System test Wednesday afternoon](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

October 4, 2023

On Wednesday afternoon at 2:20 p.m., Public Radio East and every other TV, radio and cellphone in the country will broadcast the distinctive sound of the Emergency Alert System as part of a nationwide test of both it and the Wireless Emergency Alert system.

[North Carolina retiree group sues to block 30-day voter residency requirement](#)

[Associated Press](#)

October 4, 2023

North Carolina laws requiring citizens to reside in the state and within a precinct at least 30 days before an election date to be eligible to vote are unlawful and must be blocked, a union-affiliated retiree group said in a federal lawsuit this week.

[State budget includes more than \\$600 million additional dollars for public education](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

October 4, 2023

The North Carolina state budget includes more than \$600 million additional dollars for public education, totaling almost \$13.5 billion for the K-12 public school system.

[New law provides harsher penalties for teachers involved in sexual misconduct with students](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

October 4, 2023

The bill is also intended to increase education and awareness of sexual misconduct by educators.

[Another invasive aquatic species has been found in North Carolina](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

October 4, 2023

Officials with the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission said Apple Snails have been identified along the Lumber River in Lumberton.

[North Carolina lawmaker named temporary leader of the U.S. House of Representatives](#)

[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

October 4, 2023

For the first time ever, a House speaker had been voted out of the position, and a North Carolina lawmaker is leading the body until a new leader is chosen.

[New Bern HS state football championship vacated because of academically ineligible players](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 3, 2023

The North Carolina High Schools Athletics Association has vacated the 2022 New Bern High School football team's 4A state championship after finding that academically ineligible students participated in the program.

[One beach driving access point in Emerald Isle temporarily closed](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 3, 2023

The Point Beach Access in Emerald Isle is closed temporarily.

[ECU and partners working to increase ag workers' access to telehealth](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 3, 2023

East Carolina University faculty are part of a research team focused on the health of agricultural workers and their families in North Carolina by giving them better access to telehealth.

[More schools participating in the program meant to increase access to fresh food and veggies](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 3, 2023

More than 250 elementary schools across North Carolina will participate in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program this school year, the largest number of schools ever to participate in a given school year.

[Cooper vetoes two environmental bills, legislative override likely](#)

Colin Campbell, WUNC

October 3, 2023

Republicans in the state legislature could act as soon as next week to override Governor Roy Cooper's latest vetoes of environmental legislation.

[NC air quality officials say people in the state are breathing the cleanest air in decades](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 3, 2023

Officials with the North Carolina Division of Air Quality say people in the state are breathing the cleanest air in decades as emissions of harmful air pollutants reach historic lows.

[NC AG pleased with court ruling that blocked parts of abortion legislation as court case continues](#)

Annette Weston-Riggs

October 3, 2023

North Carolina's district attorney is pleased with a district court ruling that blocked two parts on the abortion law from taking effect while the case continues.

[Dog rescued by GPD officer during Tropical Storm Ophelia up for adoption, owner charged](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

October 3, 2023

After a video of Greenville Police Department Officer Benjamin Schultz rescuing a dog from knee deep flood waters during Tropical Storm Ophelia went viral, county officials are again working to rescue the pup.

[Citizen science: If you see a blue land crab at the beach, researchers want to know about it](#)  
[Annette Weston-Riggs](#)

October 3, 2023

Biologists are asking visitors to eastern North Carolina's beaches to be on the lookout for a crab species that's not native to the Carolinas.