

WCTI ISSUES AND CONCERNS

4th Quarter 2023

Filed by:

Martin Hicks, Assistant News Director

WCTI NEWS PROGRAMS – 3rd Quarter 2023

NEWS 12 THIS MORNING
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 4:30A – 7A

Moriah Davis and Brian North host along with Meteorologist Les Still providing 2.5 hours of overnight local and national news and weather.

NEWS 12 AT NOON
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 12P – 12:30P

Anchor Valentina Wilson and Meteorologist Les Still provide current news, weather, and sports.

NEWS 12 AT 5
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 5P – 5:30P

Anchor Valentina Wilson delivers the top stories of the day and in-depth political coverage on the latest happenings at the capitol. Chief Meteorologist Donnie Cox provides viewers with latest forecast and future tracking.

NEWS 12 AT 5:30
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 5:30P – 6P

Tyler Hardin anchors this 30-minute newscast that continues our in-depth coverage of local and national stories along with daily weather forecasts with Chief Meteorologist Donnie Cox.

NEWS 12 AT 6
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 6P – 6:30P

Anchor Valentina Wilson and Tyler Hardin anchor this show bringing viewers breaking news, impactful reporting, sports, and weather with Chief Meteorologist Donnie Cox.

NEWS 12 AT 11
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 11P – 11:35P

Tyler Hardin leads the news team in presenting viewers with the latest updates on the day's news events. Meteorologist Donnie Cox has the latest on weather and presents the outlook for what's ahead.

GOOD MORNING EASTERN CAROLINA WEEKEND
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, 7A – 8A

Deja Mayfield anchors our weekend morning show at 7am providing up to the minute updates with what happened overnight. Meteorologist Grant Carlton provides a morning weather outlook.

NEWS 12 AT 6 AND 11 WEEKEND EDITIONS
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Amanda Smith anchors the Weekend Edition at 6pm and 11pm providing updates on local weekend news in the area. Meteorologist Grant Carlton provides the weather outlook for planning outdoor activities and Luke Schwartz provides weekend sports highlights.

NEWS 12 NEWS BRIEFS
VARIOUS TIMES MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

Provides news updates in either 30 second, 15 second, or 2-minute segments. Focuses on weather forecasts for the day and week ahead plus important news headlines during cut-away from Good Morning America. Afternoon teases recorded and aired shortly before the 5pm evening newscasts.

TV 12 WEBSITE

WCTI News 12's website offers complete information about the station and its people, departments, and services. Viewers can access all local, national, world and feature stories through the website and its very active social media accounts. The website can be accessed at <http://www.wcti12.com/>.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

The following program is not broadcast within the core programming time period and is not considered as part of WCTI's children's core programming. However, because of the content and educational purpose of the program, we submit it as part of this report as well as the quarterly FCC 398 filing to show good intent.

Hearts of Heroes
Free Enterprise
Oh Baby
Animal Rescue
Vets Saving Pets
Wildlife Nation with Jeff Corwin
Ron Hazelton's Housecalls

THE FOLLOWING PAGES INCLUDE TOPICS AND ISSUES ADDRESSING COMMUNITY CONCERNS THAT WERE BROADCAST BY WCTI ON THE DATES AND TIMES LISTED. ISSUES AIRED BY "NEWS 12" WERE INCLUDED IN OUR NEWSCASTS VARIOUS TIMES THROUGH OUT THE DAY ON THE DATE LISTED AND AVERAGED TWO MINUTES IN LENGTH.

ISSUE	PROGRAM	DATE	SUBJECT
Bertie County school closure meeting	NEWS	11/27/23	Bertie County, NC is looking into permanently closing one of their elementary schools due to a decline in population and enrollment. We attended the public hearing to find out what the community thinks of the proposal. The majority of the community members who spoke were overwhelmingly against it. The school board says the proposal comes due to a steady decline in enrollment- with Aulander Elementary having less than one hundred students currently attending.
Family gift-giving program at Martin County nursing homes	NEWS	12/20/23	One Martin County family created a gift-giving program in honor of loved ones. This is the second year, Regina Smith and her children have donated gifts to those living in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Regina says this year, they handed out 42 gift bags at the Williamston House in Martin County.
RE-organization of Martin County Board of Commissioners	NEWS	12/13/23	Community members are calling for resignations from the Martin County Board of Commissioners. People packed the Martin County Board of Commissioners meeting asking some to step down after a hospital closure, county manager resignation, lawsuit and more. Changes to the board were made before anyone could make public comments or voice their concerns.
High School remembers coach's legacy	NEWS	12/05/23	<p>A community mourns the passing of a beloved Jones Senior High School football coach.</p> <p>We sat down with the students and faculty on how they remember Coach Greg Hampton.</p> <p>Hampton dedicated 30 years of coaching football before passing away from an aortic aneurysm on December 1, a month before celebrating his 64th birthday.</p>

ISSUE	PROGRAM	DATE	SUBJECT
Holly Ridge housing crisis	NEWS	12/28/23	Onslow County, NC - A community in Holly Ridge is feeling pressure from a housing crisis right during the holidays. A low-income apartment complex has been condemned and dozens of families are scrambling to find somewhere to live. There are bright orange condemned posters plastered on 45 doors at Holly Plaza Apartments. The units are infested with mold.
Civil Rights Activist ousted from Greenville theater	NEWS	12/27/23	Pitt County, NC - A prominent member of the Eastern North Carolina community was removed from the AMC theatre in Greenville. Two police officers were dispatched to escort Bishop William J. Barber II, a prominent social activist and former chair of the North Carolina NAACP from the theater. Barber had brought his own chair to the theater to see "The Color Purple." He set the chair up in an area designated for those with disabilities. But in a video, you can hear Barber saying the staff found the chair to be a fire hazard. When police arrived, he agreed to leave voluntarily, and no charges were filed.
Tires wash up on beach – NC opts for sustainable artificial reefs	NEWS	12/21/23	Carteret County, NC - After thousands of tires washed up on our shore the Division of Marine Fisheries now builds artificial reefs with recycling and durability in mind. There are still millions of tires at the bottom of the ocean- but the Division of Marine Fisheries can't track them due to the layers of sand and poor records from when they were placed.
Craven County Jail gets new body scanners	NEWS	12/12/23	A new tool to crack down on contraband is being used in the Craven County Jail. A state of the art full-body scanner has been set up to prevent drugs and weapons from getting into the facility on Clarks Road. This is all to help keep both the inmates and the jail staff safe.

ISSUE	PROGRAM	DATE	SUBJECT
Maynard Children's Hospital welcomes new dog	NEWS	11/22/23	Pitt County, NC - A new addition to the ECU Health Maynard Children's Hospital hopes to combat stress and anxiety. Sam is the children's hospital's first dog, a first for a children's hospital in North Carolina. She is a black lab, golden retriever and doodle mix. She is tasked to help pediatric patients meet their needs, build coping skills through trust, and add a sense of normalcy during a stressful hospital stay.
Jacksonville license plate agency closed due to contract violations	NEWS	11/17/23	Onslow County, NC - The Driver's License Plate Agency in Jacksonville permanently closed, with the owners under investigation. License plate agencies in North Carolina are not operated by the Department of Motor Vehicles, but instead by private companies. The one in Jacksonville has been owned and operated by Hartag LLC since 1993. The North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles sent out a press release Friday afternoon, citing several "contract violations" as the reason for the closure, and recommends those needing services like registration, renewals and tags- go to other agencies.
Dozens of employees laid off from Hatteras Yachts	NEWS	10/31/23	Craven County, NC - Dozens of workers have been laid off from their jobs at Hatters Yachts in New Bern. NewsChannel 12 was made aware of the layoffs Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2023. Craven County Economic Development Director Jeff Wood confirmed 80 employees were laid off. In a statement, Bass Pro - which owns White River Marine Group and acquired Hatteras Yachts in 2021 - stated the layoffs were "Due to the current economic conditions and the desire to invest in new boat designs."

Community Activities

A web-based community calendar and activities list is posted on <http://wcti12.com/> to address several issues in the community. Organizations submit events via web, email, and/or mail.

Community Activity	Participant(s)	Date(s)	Location	Narration of Type and Description
School Visit	Les Still	10/23/23	Beaufort Elem. Beaufort, NC	Les Still talked to 75 10 to 11-year-olds about weather and its impact on the region. He explained the how and why it happens.
School Visit	Les Still	11/03/23	Magnolia Elem. Rose Hill, NC	Les Still talked to 140 5 th graders about how weather occurs in the atmosphere, the types of weather and how it is predicted. He also discussed the educational requirements for weather scientists.
Station Tour	WCTI Staff	11/30/23	Brinson Elem.	2 nd grade students from Brinson Elementary visited the WCTI studios to learn about broadcast operations and weather forecasting.
School Visit	Les Still	12/11/23	Blue Creek Elem. Jacksonville	Les Still visited the 2 nd grade classes to explain weather forecasting and other science topics.
Public Event	Valentina Wilson	10/28/23	New Bern	Val Wilson emceed the Sister Circle NC Breast Cancer Awareness Tea party.

Community Activity	Participant(s)	Date(s)	Location	Narration of Type and Description
New Bern Christmas Tree Lighting	Brian North	11/24/23	Union Point Park New Bern	Brian North rallied a crowd of several thousand people for the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony.
37 th Annual New Bern Flotilla	Brian North	12/02/23	Union Point Park New Bern	Brian North addressed a crowd of more than a thousand people during a holiday boating tradition in New Bern.
New Bern Bear Drop	Brian North	12/31/23	New Bern City Hall	Brian North led the annual countdown for the New Bern Bear Drop event to usher in the new year.
Share Your Christmas Food Drive	WCTI Staff	12/04/23 – 12/08/23	Various locations in East North Carolina	A collaborated effort to help feed food insecurity residents in Eastern North Carolina raised a total of 94,000 holiday meals for those in need. The events took place at multiple Piggly Wiggly locations across ENC the week of Monday, Dec. 4 to Friday, Dec. 8. Piggly Wiggly partners each year in support of the food drive with News12 and the Food Bank of Central Eastern North Carolina.