

WCTI ISSUES AND CONCERNS

2nd Quarter 2021

Filed by:

Christy Hutchings

Assistant News Director

ABC NEWS PROGRAMS – 2nd QTR 2021

WORLD NEWS NOW

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 3:30A – 4:00A

Anchors Kenneth Moton and Mona Kosar offer up-to-date news coverage including mixture of live and taped coverage of domestic and international news issues. The show just celebrated its 29th anniversary on ABC

AMERICA THIS MORNING

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 4:00A – 4:30A

Kenneth Moton and Mona Kosar co-anchor this morning news program which provides viewers with late-breaking national and international news, sports, weather and financial reports.

GOOD MORNING AMERICA

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 7A – 9A

Robin Roberts, Michal Strahan, Lara Spencer, Ginger Zee provide viewers with timely news reports, informative features, weather and up-to-the minute interviews with world leaders.

THE VIEW

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 11A – 12P

Created in 1997 by veteran journalist Barbara Walters, this daytime talk show is hosted by a panel of women, each offering her take on the day's news. The women welcome various celebrities and other guests. Topics include politics, beauty, fashion, diet and relationships.

ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT WITH DAVID MUIR

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 6:30P – 7P

Anchor David Muir keeps viewers informed about world news events this half-hour news review.

20/20

FRIDAY, 9:00P – 11:00P

20/20 is an informational news magazine which combines hard-hitting investigative reports, newsmaker interviews, compelling human interest and feature stories and offers viewers a chance to learn more about the world around them.

NIGHTLINE

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 12:37A – 1:06:30A UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED

Dan Harris, Juju Chang and Bryon Pitt anchor this program which offers in-depth reporting on major news stories of the day. Reporting also covers features and profiles.

WORLD NEWS TONIGHT SATURDAY/ SUNDAY

SATURDAY, 6:30P – 7P

Tom Llamas anchors this half hour news program showcasing the day's events around the world and the country.

ABC SPORTS PROGRAMS MAY NECESSITATE THE PREEMPTION OR RESCHEDULING OF VARIOUS NEWS FEEDS.

THIS WEEK WITH GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS
SUNDAY, 9A – 10A

George Stephanopoulos anchors this news program which focuses on the politics of the day. It often features world leaders and policy makers participating in roundtable discussions.

JIMMY KIMMEL LIVE
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 11:35P – 12:37A

Emmy-winning funnyman Jimmy Kimmel serves up late night comedy bits and welcomes comedians, celebrities, athletes, musicians and more with unusual or compelling personal stories.

THE BACHELORETTE
MONDAY, 8P – 10P

This show places a bachelorette with a pool of romantic interests who he dates and at the end selects a husband. During the episodes he eliminates candidates each week before finally handing out a final rose to the person and a possible proposal.

LOCAL AND SYNDICATED PROGRAMMING

ACCESS
MONDAY THRU SATURDAY, 1A – 136A

anchors focus on celebrity entertainment projects popular in the news magazine and entertainment genres.

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

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

LIVE WITH KELLY AND RYAN
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 9A – 10A

Kelly Ripa and Ryan Seacrest discuss what's going on in their lives and in pop culture. Guests join in on the conversation, enjoy musical guest performances and get the chance to win prizes for answering trivia questions.

THE DOCTORS
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 10A – 11A

This Emmy-Award winning show returns as the most timely, topical and practical health, wellness and lifestyle information show on daytime television. Anchored by ER Physician Dr. Travis Stork and Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon Dr. Andrew Ordon, Specialists from across the health and wellness spectrum will join them to share real life stories, answers, interventions and care. Follow-up stories with guests from previous season often air to update viewers on their progress.

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

Anchor Alexis Cruz and Meteorologist Les Still provide current news, weather and sports.

INSIDE EDITION
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 12:30P – 1P

This show includes investigative reports, interviews with newsmakers, human interest stories and celebrity and pop-culture features.

NEWSCHANNEL 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.

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

Frank Fraboni 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.

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

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

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

Valentina Wilson and Frank Fraboni lead 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

Megan Scarano anchors our weekend morning show at 7am providing up to the minute updates with what happened overnight. Meteorologist Rachel Meyers provides a morning weather outlook.

NEWSCHANNEL 12 AT 6 AND 11 WEEKEND EDITIONS
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Kate Hussey anchors the Weekend Edition at 6pm and 11p providing updates on local weekend news in the area. Meteorologist Anthony Baglione provides the weather outlook for planning outdoor activities and Brett Kennedy provides weekend sports highlights.

**NEWSCHANNEL 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 NewsChannel 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.

Ocean Treks
Sea Rescue
Hearts of Heroes
Free Enterprise
Outback Adventures
Oh Baby
Animal Rescue

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

ISSUE	PROGRAM	DATE	SUBJECT
BUSINESS/ECONOMY	NEWS	4/7	Restaurants were among the first businesses to close when the pandemic hit, sending employees home. And now that things are opening back up restaurant owners are struggling to fill those positions as people are opting not to work and instead collect unemployment benefits. It wasn't just restaurants struggling to hire. We covered multiple stories where employers were short staffed and had help wanted signs posted.
BUSINESS/ECONOMY	NEWS	5/10	The cyberattack at Colonial Pipeline had major impacts in North Carolina. For weeks, people waited in lines for hours to fill up their vehicles. In response to the shutdown the Governor declared a State of Emergency to temporarily suspend vehicle fuel regulations. One of the major terminals for pipeline is in Selma, NC. We did several stories encouraging people not to rush to the pumps.
BUSINESS/ECONOMY	NEWS	5/13	The real estate market is thriving as a result of the pandemic stay at home orders, with people working from home and students learning remotely, many homeowners are realizing they can live anywhere and want more space. Right now, it's a sellers-market and homes go very quickly. Agents say they can't predict how long this boom will last.
BUSINESS/ECONOMY	NEWS	5/14	With businesses still struggling to hire employees some owners are taking a second look at wages and making adjustments in hopes of getting more people to apply. We spoke to businesses who have mixed emotions on the topic. Some analyst think unemployment benefits are keeping many workers at home.

ISSUE	PROGRAM	DATE	SUBJECT
CRIME / LAW & ORDER	NEWS	4/13	Two Kinston police officers are placed on paid administrative leave following a video that surfaced showing them punching a man while trying to take him into custody. In the video obtained by NewsChannel 12 you can see the man fall to the ground and one of the officer's bends over him, appearing to punch him multiple times. The other officer is seen kneeling down as the two try to restrain the man. Community members were upset over the video. Weeks later both officers were cleared of any wrong doing and returned back to work.
CRIME / LAW & ORDER	NEWS	4/14	We reported on the search for a murder suspect in Onslow County who was considered armed and dangerous. Authorities were looking for 37-year-old Eduardo Domingo. He is accused of breaking into his girlfriend's home on Gregory Fork Road in Richlands and shooting his girlfriends roommate, 36-year-old Juan Lopez. Lopez' sister spoke to NewsChannel 12 and she pleaded with the community to come forward with any information on Domingo's whereabouts. He is still on the run.
CRIME / LAW & ORDER	NEWS	5/10	A fatal shooting in New Bern also sent an innocent bystander to the hospital after a stray bullet came through her home, hitting her in the face. You could see bullet holes inside the home. A man and his fiancé were laying in bed when a stray bullet came through the window hitting his fiancé in the face. She was airlifted to Vidant but has since recovered. The other victim died on the scene. The motive behind the shooting is still unknown.
CRIME / LAW & ORDER	NEWS	5/11	We had continuing coverage of the deputy involved shooting that killed Andrew Brown Jr. We covered the protest of civil rights leaders as they demanded to see the body camera video from the night of the shooting. We spoke with Brown's family and attorney after they got to watch 20 minutes of the footage. The family felt the shooting wasn't justified however a judge weeks later ruled the shooting was justified.

ISSUE	PROGRAM	DATE	SUBJECT
EDUCATION	NEWS	4/6	We covered the traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall. The wall that heals travels across the country as a mobile education center. More than 400 people escorted to the wall to New Bern to honor veterans of the Vietnam War. We spoke to veterans who described to us what it was like returning home from war and not receiving a warm welcome from the public. But veterans say this wall represents the thank you they never received. We did multiple stories on the wall while it was at Lawson Creek Park. The wall is a small version of the one in D.C.
EDUCATION	NEWS	6/14	We did a story about how some parents decided to hold off enrolling their children in Kindergarten this past year because of health concerns and the quality of online education. Now some district leaders are bracing for a spike in Kindergarten enrollment this upcoming school year. Both Onslow and Carteret county schools saw a significant drop in Kindergarten enrollment for 2020. School officials say the state funding they receive is based on enrollment so in order to have enough teachers on staff to take on the increase in students they need parents to take-action and enroll students now.
EDUCATION	NEWS	6/18	The North Carolina State Board of Education voted to adopt new social studies standards which includes a “reference-guide” educators can use when talking about racism and discrimination. Those in support call the standards more “inclusive” while those opposed refer to them as “divisive” and “anti-American.”
EDUCATION	NEWS	6/22	A nationwide teacher shortage has North Carolina changing policies for new teachers. Now anyone with a bachelor degree can take 1 semester of a teacher preparation work and be eligible to work part-time as a teacher. We spoke to someone with the parent teacher association who expressed concerns over the shortened time in the classroom and say the move is just putting a band-aid over the problem. Part time teachers must work less than 20 hours per week or less than 6 full consecutive months.

ISSUE	PROGRAM	DATE	SUBJECT
ENVIRONMENT	NEWS	4/7	<p>In 2021 many people thought the pollen levels were higher than usual. We looked into it and found the levels weren't higher, but experts said due to the pandemic and people wearing masks it was allowing pollen to sneak its way more into our eyes and nose. Allergy Specialist, John Georgitis said the pollen was getting inside people's masks and people who frequently took their masks off outside experienced more allergy symptoms.</p>
ENVIRONMENT	NEWS	4/14	<p>Mold and abnormal levels of carbon dioxide are found in Washington County Elementary school forcing the school to close and students to return to remote learning. Parents said they weren't told how serious the issue was and it wasn't until our reporter showed them the air quality test that they said they had more questions for the school district. The superintendent told us she was also surprised by the test results and acted immediately to ensure the safety of the students. The reason the school conducted a study was to fight against the spread of COVID 19.</p>
ENVIRONMENT	NEWS	5/19	<p>We covered when NCDOT crews, contractors and volunteers collected more than six million pounds for litter from roadsides. They are on pace to exceed the record for litter collection set in 2019. Officials say everyone should do their part to eliminate litter by keeping a litter bag in your vehicle, securing loads before driving and recycling when possible.</p>
ENVIRONMENT	NEWS	6/17	<p>We spoke with a Morehead City man who wrecked his boat after he hit what he believes to be a piece of submerged marine debris in the Beaufort Inlet. Our reporter went out on a boat and witnessed multiple submerged hazards in the inlet. We reached out to the Coast Guard for comment and we were referred to a national 24-hour navigational hazard hotline but no one got back to us. We also reached out to Coastal Federation who said they would try to help clean up the debris.</p>

ISSUE	PROGRAM	DATE	SUBJECT
GOVERNMENT	NEWS	4/6	We reported on the controversial vote in Onslow County to purchase a 152-acre horse farm from a former state senator. Residents felt the purchase was rushed and they did not have time to give public input on the decision. The farm cost the county 1.2 million dollars. Commissioners felt the purchase would add activities and opportunities to the area and would draw in more tourism. The land includes 11 cabins, an office building and a 26-stall barn. We reached out to the senator for comment but never heard back.
GOVERNMENT	NEWS	4/15	State lawmakers are looking again to tighten restrictions on cell phones while driving. If Senate Bill 20 passes, the latest “Hands Free NC Act,” would ban the use of any hand-held electronic device while driving. Currently NC has a law prohibiting texting and driving but not a law regarding talking on the phone or social media. If passed, anyone violating the law would face a \$100 fine for the first time and higher fines and points on their licenses for further offenses.
GOVERNMENT	NEWS	5/5	Local leaders call for action from the DOT following a NewsChannel 12 investigation into accidents on Highway 70 in New Bern. Our station did an investigation 3 months ago showing accidents had rose 500 percent in six months. After seeing our investigation Craven County Sheriff, Chip Hughes and Commissioners agreed this problem had to be fixed and called on NCDOT to take immediate action. As a result, our investigation revealed the problem was with the new pavement used and NCDOT began the process to correct the problem.
GOVERNMENT	NEWS	5/19	Morehead City Council members approved a proposal to rezone and annex a 23-acre section of Highway 24, a move that will make way for a senior living facility. But a community coalition believes traffic safety could be a problem. More than 200 people attended meeting

ISSUE	PROGRAM	DATE	SUBJECT
SOCIAL	NEWS	4/19	A home security camera caught the scary moments of a bobcat attack. A woman and her husband were loading up their cat to take it to the vet when the woman heard a growl. Next thing she knew a bobcat was attacking her. Her husband grabbed the bobcat and ended up throwing it. The rabid bobcat charged again, and the husband shot the bobcat so it couldn't hurt anyone. The video was viewed and shared many times.
SOCIAL	NEWS	4/19	Things went from bad to worse for a fish that was plucked by a bird from a North Carolina Lake, then fell from its talons and onto a trucker's windshield. Video from the trucker's windshield camera shows the moment the bird drops the fish while the driver is headed along Interstate 73 near High Point. The video was viewed and shared many times.
SOCIAL	NEWS	6/9	We did a feature story about a homeless 94-year-old WWII veteran in our area. His story was shared all over social media and the community rallied around him to help him find a home. Jerry Lewis served our country from 1943-1946 but has been homeless for the past 25 years. At one point he was living out of a van in Walmart. Lewis all he wanted was a place to call his own. Again, after the story aired so many donations came in and Jerry Lewis is now in an assisted living facility.
SOCIAL	NEWS	6/23	A 10-year-old girl in Emerald Isle puts on a Pride event. Lilly Chigas put together the All-Ages Beachside Pride event. She says she was motivated to act after learning there were few events in support of the LGBTQ community in the area. She set up a Facebook page to get the word out about the event.

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.

Description of Issue	Community Activities	Date(s)	Location	Narration of Type and Description
	Virtual School Visit Rachel Meyers	4/7	Jacksonville High School	Students at Jacksonville High School were learning about weather and Rachel joined classroom virtually to answer questions and giving them a rea-life visualization of utilizing a Meteorological education.
	Weather Radio Wednesday's Donnie Cox, Rachel Meyers, and Anthony Baglione	5/12 5/19 5/26	Beaufort New Bern Sneads Ferry	Meteorologists were at Ace Hardware stores in these cities doing live remotes on the importance of getting a weather radio and they would help viewers program their weather radios.
	Food Drive Valentina Wilson, Frank Fraboni, Brian North, Donnie Cox and Megan Scarano	6/21 – 6/25	Jacksonville Greenville Morehead City Kinston New Bern	We helped collect food for the Food Bank of Eastern North Carolina. We had our main anchors out at the locations doing live remotes and encouraging people to come out and donate.