

WCTI ISSUES AND CONCERNS

3rd Quarter 2023

Filed by:

Martin Hicks, Assistant News Director

WCTI NEWS PROGRAMS – 3rd Quarter 2023

NEWSCHANNEL 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.

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

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

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

Anchors 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

Frank Fraboni 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.

NEWSCHANNEL 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 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.

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 "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
Ocracoke Express extends operating season due to popular demand	NEWS	09/01/23	<p>Hyde County — Ocracoke - Attention ferry-goers: By popular demand, the Ocracoke Express will be extending its operating season through Sept 5-28. According to the North Carolina Department of Transportation, due to popular demand, the Ocracoke Express passenger ferry will extend its operating season through Sept 28. The season was previously slated to end on Sept 4.</p> <p>The passenger-only ferry allows visitors to make reservations and skip the lines for the vehicle ferry, giving them more time to enjoy one of North Carolina's most charming coastal treasures.</p>
Carteret County Sheriff's Office emphasizes school bus safety as new academic year begins	NEWS	08/22/23	<p>BEAUFORT, Carteret County — With school starting next week, the Carteret County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) is raising awareness about vital safety measures to protect students as they travel to and from school.</p> <p>Everyday millions of students use school buses as transportation to and from school. While school buses remain one of the safest modes of transportation, it's crucial to keep in mind several key safety aspects.</p>
ENC Senior Center no longer an option for museum	NEWS	07/18/23	<p>WASHINGTON, Beaufort County — City leaders are clearing up confusion over a senior center in Washington.</p> <p>They had been considering using the second floor of the Grace Martin Harwell Senior Center for a new museum.</p> <p>City Manager Jonathan Russell said after meeting with more than 100 citizens, they are looking at other options.</p> <p>He said the second floor is used seasonally and there are concerns about parking in the area. He said a small committee is looking to house historic collections from multiple nonprofit organizations under one roof.</p>
14th annual Hope for the Warriors Celebrity Invitational kicks off in Duplin County	NEWS	08/28/23	<p>WALLACE, Duplin County — The 14th annual Hope for the Warriors Celebrity Invitational is happening in Duplin County. Opening ceremonies will take place outside of the River Landing Clubhouse in Warsaw at 9:30 a.m. on August 28, 2023. The annual golf tournament focuses on building a deeper understanding and appreciation between the military and civilian communities. Service members and veterans are teamed with celebrities, flag officers and Hope For The Warriors' supporters in an event with nearly 200 golfers.</p>

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Regional fire crews to conduct training exercise in Beaufort County	NEWS	08/01/23	<p>PANTEGO, Beaufort County — On Saturday, August 19, 2023, Fire crews from around the region will be taking part in a training exercise in Pantego. The training will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the area of Terra Ceia Road.</p> <p>During that time, expect a heavy presence of tanker fire trucks and similar emergency vehicles traveling on and around Terra Ceia Road.</p> <p>The road will remain open to traffic during the exercise.</p>
Greene County Schools putting in new weapon detection system for 23-24 school year	NEWS	07/18/23	<p>GREENE COUNTY — Like a few other counties in Eastern North Carolina, Greene County will be implementing new weapon detection technology for the next school year.</p> <p>Greene County Schools Superintendent Frank Creech said they have been made possible by school safety grants and federal funding.</p> <p>Creech said it gives Greene County Schools the chance to increase the safety of the students and staff.</p>
Committee focused on safety, accessibility for bike rides, pedestrians in New Bern	NEWS	09/12/23	<p>NEW BERN, Craven County — A group of more than a dozen concerned citizens are working to improve how people get around the city without a vehicle.</p> <p>The committee plans to meet for the second time on Nov. 6, 2023.</p> <p>They plan to meet every other month following.</p>
Robersonville regains financial control	NEWS	09/13/23	<p>The Town of Robersonville in Martin County is now back on financial track in the eyes of the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer. According to State Treasurer Dale R. Fowell, Robersonville Mayor Tina Brown is appreciative of the intensive assistance the Local Government Commission provided in getting her Martin County town back on financial track. State Treasurer Dale R. Folwell, CPA, who chairs the LGC, presented Mayor Brown with a symbolic key to the city during a brief recognition ceremony.</p>

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Big Rock casts line for young anglers with kids-only fishing tournament	NEWS	07/11/23	<p>MOREHEAD CITY, Carteret County — The Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament wants children to get more involved in fishing and has tournaments just for them.</p> <p>The tournament starts on Thursday, July 13, 2023, and wraps up on July 15, 2023.</p> <p>Fishing will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with scales closing at 7 p.m.</p> <p>Unlike the adult tournament, the kid's competition uses a point system for each fish caught and the winner is the one who racks up the most points.</p>
New Bern Fire Rescue triumphs in Battle of the Badges blood drive, collects record units of blood	NEWS	07/24/23	<p>NEW BERN, Craven County — New Bern Fire Rescue earned bragging rights by winning the Battle of the Badges and tying up the series with the New Bern Police Department, 3-3. New Bern Fire Rescue had 176 donors to the New Bern Police Department's 153 donors.</p> <p>The combined efforts of the two departments helped collect an event record of 254 units of blood.</p> <p>The units of blood collected could end up saving up to 762 lives, according to City of New Bern officials.</p>
Jones County honors late Sheriff Danny Heath with building dedication	NEWS	08/02/23	<p>People in Jones County are remembering the life of former Sheriff Danny Heath with a special ceremony. Wednesday morning the county dedicated its Sheriff's Office building in his honor, and it was an event that brought out dozens of people. The long-time sheriff died suddenly back in 2021 after serving the Jones County community for more than 10 years. During the ceremony, there was a candle lighting in his honor, a balloon released by his family, and a reading of the remarks by the county's present Sheriff Matthew Wineman. Wineman says he knew Danny as a mentor and a friend for many years and his influence on their community is one that can't be measured.</p>

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Surprise celebration honors Jones County bus driver's half century	NEWS	09/04/23	<p>TRENTON, Pollocksville — In a heart-warming gesture of love and appreciation, a daughter planned a surprise celebration for her remarkable mother.</p> <p>Helen Dove Hill has served Jones County as a bus driver for half a century, a true local legend.</p> <p>Hill began her journey as a school bus driver in 1967 and has been a pillar of the community for decades.</p> <p>Hill's dedication to her job and the safety of the kids at Pollocksville Elementary School earned her the title of "Bus Driver of the Year" from Governor Roy Cooper.</p>
Stop right there: Duplin County intersection to transform into all-way stop	NEWS	07/07/23	<p>ALBERTSON, Duplin County — Another all-way stop is coming to a Duplin County intersection next week. The traffic pattern is scheduled to change on July 10 at the intersection of N.C. 111 and Outlaw Bridge Road, which will become an all-way stop. Currently, drivers on N.C. 111 do not have to stop, so crews will install pavement markings and stop signs, according to the North Carolina Department of Transportation. This location was chosen to become an all-way stop based on a safety review and crash patterns. Drivers should be alert in the area while crews work and pay attention to the new traffic pattern.</p>
Craven County Sheriff's Office launches "Operation Back to School" for safety on first day of classes	NEWS	08/24/23	<p>NEW BERN, Craven County — In conjunction with the first day of Craven County School classes on Monday, August 28, 2023, the Craven County Sheriff's Office will conduct "Operation Back To School". In addition to School Resource Officers, deputies will be present on all campuses to assist school staff and ensure a safe and welcoming first day of school for everyone. Deputies will also be patrolling school bus routes to monitor traffic and obedience with motor vehicle laws.</p>

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Tragic car accident in Bertie County claims lives of two young children	NEWS	07/10/23	<p>A tragic car accident in Bertie County on Sunday claimed the lives of two children.</p> <p>The crash happened on NC Hwy. 11 near Lewiston Woodville.</p> <p>A 13-year-old and an 11-year-old were both passengers of the Nissan and were pronounced dead on the scene by officials. The driver of the Nissan was flown to ECU Health Medical Center in Greenville where their condition is unknown.</p>
Lenoir County welcomes 25 new U.S. citizens in special Independence Day ceremony	NEWS	07/04/23	<p>KINSTON, Lenoir County — While many have long-held July 4th traditions, there are some who are celebrating for the first time as citizens.</p> <p>While millions of Americans across the country are celebrating Independence Day by grilling and lighting fireworks, 25 people in Lenoir County have something else to celebrate: officially becoming United States citizens.</p> <p>Harmony Hall in Kinston was filled with friends and family of immigrants who recently met all the requirements of becoming U.S. citizens. While this is the first naturalization ceremony held on Independence Day since the coronavirus pandemic, the event has been a long-standing tradition.</p>
Onslow County school board tackles overcrowding with possible redistricting and new building project	NEWS	08/08/23	<p>JACKSONVILLE, Onslow County — The Onslow Board of Education is expected to meet on the night of Tuesday, August 8, 2023. Officials are expected to talk about redistricting within the county. Back in May, the board proposed potential redistricting between Dixon High School and Southwest High School for the 2024-2025 school year. The board also approved a new elementary school in the Swansboro/Hubert area of the county. Both of these initiatives are to address overcrowding in schools and the growing population.</p>
Temporary closure of two Martin County railroad crossings announced by CSX Corp.	NEWS	07/07/23	<p>Two railroad crossings in Martin County will be closed next Thursday, July 13. The crossings are at McCaskey Road and Greenville Avenue (N.C. 125 Bypass) west of Williamston. CSX Corp. recently informed state highway officials that they would be conducting maintenance to the crossings. The work is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. on July 13 and last until 5 p.m., weather permitting, according to the North Carolina Department of Transportation.</p>

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Trent river in Trenton sees dramatic rise in water level, flood warning issued	NEWS	07/10/23	TRENTON, Jones County — There is currently a Flood Warning in effect for Jones County. The water level in the Trent River in Jones County, near Trenton, has jumped from 6 feet on Sunday to 17 feet on Monday. The warning will remain in effect until further notice.
Washington County animal shelter pauses intake amid crucial renovations, community support sought	NEWS	08/21/23	Washington County Animal Control, which is led by the Washington County Sheriff's Office, has to put a pause on bringing in strays while their shelter is undergoing renovations. The county was able to move all the animals into different shelters in surrounding communities during the renovation, which includes painting and replacing fences that had rusted through. The old fencing in the kennels had holes rusted big enough for a dog to stick its head through and get hurt.
Governor Cooper visits Martin County, touts Medicaid expansion as possible saving grace	NEWS	08/15/23	WILLIAMSTON, Martin County — Governor Roy Cooper is weighing in on the next steps since Martin General Hospital closed. The governor was in Martin County for a roundtable meeting to discuss the need for Medicaid expansion, as well as the future of Martin General Hospital. A lot of questions are yet to be answered about the hospital's future. Governor Cooper believes Medicaid expansion would be the biggest step in finding a solution. Community members and Martin General employees were at the meeting holding signs and fighting for the hospital's future. Governor Cooper said his team is working with Martin County to figure out a way to reopen the hospital as soon as possible.
Pitt County's little league team may have struck out, but community spirit hits a home run	NEWS	08/14/23	GREENVILLE, Pitt County — Pitt County's U12 girls team lost 5 to 2 against New York in the Championship game of the Little League Softball World Series. But regardless of the score, fans came out to support the ENC team. Greenville has seen a massive influx of people coming into town for the Little League Softball World Series but plenty of people came out for the last game of the tournament.

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Pitt County introduces Hyper-Reach: A new emergency alert system for enhanced public safety	NEWS	07/12/23	GREENVILLE, Pitt County — Pitt County has launched a new mass notification/alert system. Emergency Management officials are encouraging all residents to enroll to get alerts. Telephone-based mass notification systems are used by thousands of public safety agencies to warn citizens about local emergencies, hazards and other threats. Pitt County Emergency Management (PCEM) announces Hyper-Reach is now available to bring this life-saving capability to our community. Hyper-Reach, a state-of-the-art emergency alert system designed specifically for public safety, will provide rapid notification of hazardous and urgent situations using a mix of telephone calls, text and email messages, and even TTY/TDD service for the hearing impaired.
Bertie County Sheriff urges Kelford residents to secure vehicles following string of break-ins	NEWS	09/13/23	KELFORD, Bertie County — The Bertie County Sheriff is urging you to be mindful of properly locking your vehicles and securing your property. Recently, the Bertie County Sheriff's Office has received several calls of vehicles being broken into at homes within the county during the nighttime hours in the Kelford area. If possible, park in a well-lit area, authorities say to remove all valuables from the vehicle and secure your vehicle properly.
Pamlico County board calls special meeting to discuss opposition of ferry tolls	NEWS	08/08/23	The Pamlico County Board of Commissioners is looking into the possibility of a bridge to connect Highway 306 in Pamlico to Ferry Road in Craven County. Pamlico County Board of Commissioners has requested a feasibility study to build a bridge that would connect Pamlico and Craven Counties. Savoye also says putting a bridge across the Neuse in these economic times would cost millions and wonders if it would carry a toll, "I think it would be over 500-600 million dollars to get a bridge in there. Now who in these times can really afford to do that without the government controlling it? And if they did put a bridge there, wouldn't that also carry a toll?" Pamlico County Board of Commissioners Chairman Edward Riggs says the feasibility study would take years to complete.

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Tyrrell County adopts Sandy Hook-inspired safety lockdown model during summer break training	NEWS	07/25/23	<p>TYRRELL COUNTY — Training is taking place while students and teachers are off for summer break in Tyrrell County. Tyrrell County Schools hosted the “I Love U Guys” Foundation’s K12 Standard Response Protocol (SRP) National Safety Training today at Columbia Early College High School. The event was sponsored by Tyrrell County Schools and Superintendent, Dr. Karen Roseboro. The SRP is a safety lockdown model that is being adopted by Tyrrell County Schools for the entire school district. The model is based on the Sandy Hook School Shooting Incident and provides consistent, clear, shared language and actions among all students, staff and first responders.</p>

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
Feed ENC Food Drive	Valentina Wilson Amanda Denise Donnie Cox Moriah Davis	08/07/23 To 08/11/23	Food Lion Stores Jacksonville, Greenville, Morehead City, Kinston, New Bern	WCTI staff solicited and collected donations for local food pantries. We teamed up with Food Lion and the Foodbank of Central and Eastern North Carolina for the week-long event.
Blitz High School Profiles	WCTI News Staff	08/18 08/25 09/01 09/08 09/15 09/21 09/29	Various High Schools across the market	WCTI profiles unique programs at High Schools across the market. The segments shine a positive light on academic, artistic and STEM programs at various schools.
Homeschool parents and student group WCTI station tour	Les Still	09/06/23	WCTI studio	WCTI hosted dozens of homeschool students and their parents for an interactive tour of our studios. With action occurring in the tropics it was great to see the process of how TV weather is done to keep us safe from tropical impacts.