

WRGC RADIO
540 AM and 105.7 FM
Issues / Programs List

FIRST Quarter-2022

Compiled by Roy Burnette

Reviewed by:



Andy Rogers: Operations Manager

ISSUE	SPEAKER	DATE AND TIME	CONTENT
Bing eating and eating disorders	Dr Melissa Spann Chief Med. Off. Monte Nido	01/03/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Bing eating disorder is more than will-power, importance of a support system, de-stress and coping techniques
The huge divide between people with and broadband	Joe Costello CEO Kwikbit	01/04/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	SES has a huge impact upon communities getting internet connections, Kwikbit is a new way to provide high speed internet for about \$50.00 per month
Lifestyle changes in exercise and diet	Valerie Greenberg: TV Personality/skincare	01/05/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Better food intake will impact both the health of one's skin and other physical well being
New consumer electronics show	Mario Armstrong: Reporter at Show	01/06/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Smart Homes, autonomous John Deer Tractor, Avatar Hyundai Car, new 86 inch television screen
Consumer Electronics Show	Mario Armstrong Reporter At the Show	01/07/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:17 PM	Now being shown ate computers and artificial intelligence, advances in telehealth, impact of chip shortages
Veterans employment	Richard Gorton NC Works and veteran	01/10/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	NC Works offering special assistance to veterans in their job hunt prep, job fairs, and community college transition for veterans
4-H Club opportunities for kids and parents	Heather Gordon NC Cooperative Extension	01/11 and 01/17/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Several clubs are meeting after school and the new livestock at the high school. Also leadership council for this year now being formed. Sign up for summer camp
Candidate for NC 14 district of US Congress	Eric Gash Candidate for US Congress	01/12/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Described several planks in his platform, health, education, broadband, expanded Medicaid and reduce hostility
Food and health and adverse impact of sugar	Diane Licalzi. My Busy Kitchen	01/13/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Better ways to cook avoiding sugar and high carbohydrates and fattening foods yet able to get the desired flavor
Animal Certification Program from USDA	Kendra Fortner NC Cooperative Extension	01/14/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	A program now for getting farm livestock and cattle certified, bulls as certified producers and a youth livestock club
Health Diagnostics available independently	Dr.Jeffery D'Lott CEO Quest Diagnostics	01/18/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Health diagnostics are available for anyone and often cheaper than hospital or the doctor's office
Inequity in health care and often race related	Dr. Will Rawlings; RWJF CEO	01/19/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	A recent study on health quality showed huge disparity in service and health wellbeing among minority races
Pain Management without Opioids	Dr Austin Albright Harris Pain Mgt.	01/20/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	There are more than one way to treat pain management including exercise and physical health other than drugs
Cancer Prevention Month through mammogram checks	Dr. Lisa Richardson Dir.of Div.of Cancer Prev. & Con. @ CDC	01/21/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	With the advances of three D Mammography individuals are able to obtain better results and more thorough treatments
Efforts to protect streams from sedimentation is Haywood County	Eric Romaniszyn: Director of Haywood Waterways	01/24/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	The Haywood Waterways Organization is having a fund raising event to support the Kids in The Creek program. It is winter plunge into the pool at Lake Junaluska
Heath health, prevention is better than the best treatment	Dr. Seth J. Baum: Chief Medical Officer at Excel Clinical Trials	01/25/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	The best way to treat and avoid heart trouble is to stop smoking, exercise, and practice the best eating habits. Otherwise heart surgery is going to be in your future
SCC Job Fair	Mike Despeaux SCC Career Center Dir.	02/26/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	The Job Fair will have about 75 companies wanting to accept resumes and proceed with hiring desirable candidates
Coronary Heart Disease	Dr. Vieta Bland: Chief Coronary Medical staff at CDC	01/27/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Peripheral Artery Disease affects some three million people in the US. Not just affecting the heart but the arteries in the entire body. Narrows the arteries and restricts blood flow
Update on Jackson County Schools	Dr Dana Ayers: Supt. Jackson County Schools	01/28/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	The school system does not have a leaky roof problem, each school remodel to single entrance, many technology upgrades
Programs at the Department on Aging	Eddie Wells: Director of the Jackson County Department on Aging	01/29/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Most programs are now back in person including Congregate meals and Adult Day Care. Meals On Wheels and Project Fire can use volunteers
Racial disparity in Alzheimers Research	Dr Chrystal M Glover: RUSH Alzheimers Disease Cent. Chicago	01/31/2022 Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Black older Americans are twice as likely to develop Dementia as white adults. A new study is seeking participants for studies in Nashville TN and Charlotte NC
Scholarships for those	Rosanna Marietta: Pres	02/01/2022	The Association has disbursed over \$25 Million in support of

interested in a career in hospitality	and CEO American Hotel & Lodging Asso.	Time: 12:07 till 12:15 PM	individuals desiring a career in the lodging industry which might help address labor shortages
Activities at Macon County Library	Kristina Moe Dir. Macon Co. Library	02/02/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	A review of the current programs including live music on Mondays, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance. VAYA Mental Health Programs and Ta Chi for Veterans
Current livestock updates in the area	Kendra Fortner: NC Cooperative Extension	02/03/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Livestock Club Meeting for 4-H Club and FFA, Winter danger for livestock hoof especially wet and muddy pasture areas
February is Heart Mo. so heart health is critical	Michelle McCafferty: FNP Harris Cardiology	02/04/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Behavior and lifestyle changes for a healthier heart, symptoms of heart distress and immediate treatment when experienced
4-H Club activities in the winter	Heather Gordon: 4-H Club Specialist NC Cooperative Extension	02/07/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Now is the time to sign up for summer camp. Some scholarships are available and anyone wishing to sponsor an adolescent are urged to do so.
5 G Expansion and development	Andrew Teesta: Tech Expert from Verizon	02/08/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	An explanation of some of the new Teck, 5G for home and business, 5G Internet in general, phone services, benefits
Food Safety for Big (Football) Game party	Meredith Carothers USDA Food Specialist	02/09/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	Four Steps: 1. Clean, Separate, Cook, Chill 2. Cook to proper temp, 3. Avoid long term room temp, 4. Preheat takeout food
New tax cuts and child tax credit	Dr. Richard Besser: CEO Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	02/11/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	The government funding during the pandemic will make tax preparation more difficult. Child tax credits and other credits help families and must not be missed when preparing taxes
Managing children's screen time	Joyce Brewer; Blogger and host of the MommyTalkShow	02/14/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Ways that parents can set priorities and allocate the time their children can be in front of the screen, some phone apps can control that for working parents
Service for mental health and why they are important	Beth Carnes: Counsellor Mt. Urgent Care	02/15/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	What is Mental Health, Why is it important to maintain, how does counselling help, who is licensed to provide, why is their stigma pertaining to counselling
Taking care of your heart	Dr. Westermeyer: Harris Cardiology	02/16/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	It is better to protect your heart that to try to adjust to a rebuilt heart
The US is falling behind in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, (STEM)	Dr. Dan Reed: Provost Utah State	02/17/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	The US is falling behind in STEM training at the college level, there is insufficient government and corporate funding at research colleges, nor are corporations and business investing enough in research and development, so nation falling behind
Services provided by Harris Cardiology	Michelle McCafferty FNP Harris Cardiology	02/18/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	This department at Harris regional has gone through extensive development with the additional professional staff.
The harvest of native herbs in the mountains	Dr Luke Manget; Professor at Dalton College and author of "Ginseng Diggers"	02/21/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Dr Manget traces the development of both the ginseng and other naturally growing plants that have been used for medical purposes for thousands of years, and how the knowledge from native Americans inspired a change in all medical practice
Diversity of Leadership in the military among black career soldiers	Sgt Renieal Campbell Youngest Drill Sgt.in her Army Reserve unit	02/22/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	The military of offering more paths to leadership positions for both male and female soldiers who are black. Historically the excellent service of black soldiers has been overlooked
Disparity between blacks and whites in Dementia research	Dr Chrystal Glover Researcher for RUSH Alzheimers Disease Center in Chicago	02/23/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Research in Alzheimers and Dementia has concentrated on white people perhaps because blacks were hesitant to participate or not accessible to research, so the occurrence of Dementia is twice in older blacks as in older whites.
Disparity in heart treatments between blacks and whites	Tara Robinson: Founder of Black Heart Assoc. Dr Lisa Waddell CDC Foundation	02/24/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	The rate of premature heart disease is 87% higher for black adults that white. 48% of black women and 46% of black men are diagnosed with some form of cardiovascular disease each year. 75% of people living in black neighborhoods are less likely to survive a heart event that other residents
The Maternity death rate is higher among black women	Dr Julie Morita Exec Dir. RWJF and Stacey D Stewart Pres/CEO March of Dimes	02/25/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	Black women are three to four times more likely to die that white women during and after childbirth, indigenous women are two to three times more likely, black, Indigenous and Alaskan women are 60 % more likely to experience a preterm birth
Production of Gold hydrogen from abandoned wells	Moji Karmini CEO of Cemvita Factory	02/28/2022 Time 12:07 till 12:15 PM	As many as three million abandoned wells are in this country and many of those have agree growths that produce gold hydrogen when consumed by oil eating microbes. Gold hydrogen is the cleanest of all and totally organic
Minority communities	LaRon Nelson of Yale	03/01/2022	Science Applications Informational Corporation and Yale

were hit harder than others by the pandemic	and Bob Genter of SAIC	Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	teamed up to study why minority communities suffered more and found, lack of information available in first language, lack of vaccines, and mistrust in the system
Google search trends for February	Sara Armstrong Google Trends Expert	03/02/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	A review of top items that are being searched for which include tech items, jobs, automobiles, and health care
United Christian Ministries Fundraiser	Joyce Pope: Spokesperson for United Christian Min.	03/03/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	A walk 4 Jackson will be held March 19. Persons raise money for the walk which will go toward the \$5000.00 goal for the UCM Pantry which is running short of food
Livestock situations in Jackson County	Kendra Fortner NC Coop Extension Livestock Agent	03/04/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	It is the time for farmers to do soil samples to determine which parts of their pastures need fertilized and how much as well as lime applications. Also a Livestock show March 19 in Franklin
Google Job search trends in NC and SC	Joslynn Runke Google Trends Expert	03/07/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	A bit shocking but the number of job search was Notary Public, then health care and construction
Things to plan for in 4H in March	Heather Gordon 4-H agent in Jackson Co. NC Coop. Ext	03/08/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	Summer camp is now accepting applications, sponsors welcome, different club activities, development of the Livestock Club with the FFA, Leadership Council, Livestock show coming up in Franklin
The United States is falling behind in STEM	Dr. Dan Reed: Provost Utah State	03/09/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	The US is falling behind in STEM training at the college research colleges which are not getting sufficient corporate and federal funding for research and development, corporations and business not investing either so nation falling behind
How prepared are states for emergencies	Rhea Fabermann: Trust For America's Health	03/10/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	The annual Ready Or Not report showed which states became more prepared for an emergency and which ones declined. South Carolina was better and North Carolina dropped
How prepared are women for their retirement	Shelly Ann Eweka: Senior Dir. of Finance Planning at T-I-A-A	03/11/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	Only 19% of women feel confident they are on the right track to live comfortably throughout retirement. About 40% of men feel comfortable with their retirement. How do you know if you have saved enough?
Several bicycle events coming to Jackson County	Mike Despeaux SORBA and Trevor Brown JC Parks and Rec	03/14/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	One event if the bicycle safety training on the greenway in Sylva, another is the bicycle rodeo at the Cullowhee recreation park and the third is trail events at the Cullowhee trail and Fire Mountain Trail in Cherokee
Production of Gold hydrogen from abandoned wells	Moji Karmini CEO of Cemvita Factory	03/15/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	As many as three million abandoned wells are in this country and many of those have agree growths that produce gold hydrogen when consumed by oil eating microbes. Gold hydrogen is the cleanest of all and totally organic
A large percentage of the population suffers from sleep disorders	Carlos Nunez: ResMeds Chief Medical Officer	03/16/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	Chronic sleep disorders caused by stress, diet, and other health complications may be solved with the use of new models of CPAP equipment which is quieter and less cumbersome
National report of air pollution	Kevin Stewart American Lung Association	03/17/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	The national report showed some cities in North Carolina were cleaner, some of that might have been due to less traffic in pandemic also there is a need for more air monitoring sites
Greening Up The Mountains in Sylva	Kendra Hamm: event planner, Mark Haskett new coordinator	03/18/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	The event is April 23 and looks like a very good turnout of vendors, social distancing is still being part of the plan, numerous bands including local bands are performing
Health Diagnostics available independently	Dr. Jeffery D'Lott CEO Quest Diagnostics	03/21/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	Health diagnostics are available for anyone and often cheaper than hospital or the doctor's office
Recycling certain plastics and getting oil	Jeff Gold: CEO Nexus	03/22/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	This new technology is able to efficiently melt certain plastics in an airtight situation and extract oil which can be used in the next application for making plastics
Harris Hospital response to COVID	Dr Bradley MacAbee Harris Hospital Emergency Room	03/23/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	Harris hospital faced numerous challenges to meet the pressure resulting from the COVID pandemic. There were enough ventilators, most staff were infected, some treatments were for three months, learned a lot in case of another pandemic
Disparity between blacks and whites in Dementia research	Dr Chrystal Glover Researcher for RUSH Alzheimers Disease Center in Chicago	03/24/2021 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	Research in Alzheimers and Dementia has concentrated on white people perhaps because blacks were hesitant to participate or not accessible to research, so the occurrence of Dementia is twice in older blacks as in older whites.
How prepared are states	Rhea Fabermann:	03/25/2022	The annual Ready Or Not report showed which states became

for emergencies	Trust For America's Health	Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	more prepared for an emergency and which ones declined. South Carolina was better and North Carolina dropped
The military is offering more opportunities for advancement for black soldiers	Sgt Renieal Campbell Youngest Drill Sgt.in her Army Reserve unit	03/28/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	The military of offering more paths to leadership positions for both male and female soldiers who are black. Historically the excellent service of black soldiers has been overlooked
Low Dose CT Scan for Lung Cancer	Dr. Victor Waters St Joseph's Hospital Phoenix, AZ	03/29/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M.	This new concept in cancer scanning allows the Oncologist to look at one's lungs without exposure to the amount of radiation as was the prior case
Soring Walking Horse's feet for the Big Lick during competitions.	Marty Irby Animal Wellness Action	03/30/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M	The organization received over \$3 million in this year's budget for more enforcement of soring of horses feet at walking horse shows and exhibitions
The goal of Zero emissions by 2050	Paul Billings American Lung Association	03/31/2022 Time:12:07 till 12:15 P.M	The implementation of electric cars and other devices by 2050 will have a major impact on the environment, the faster implemented the better

Section B: Primary News Stories Covered

(Local News airs at 7:00 AM, 8:00 AM and during the Noon hour and at 5:00 PM. The local news does not air Saturday and Sunday during the noon hour but does air at 8:00 A.M.)

January 03, 2022

Winter Storm Warning in Effect for cold temperatures, Snow, and slick roads
Asheville issues a Code purple for homeless people living under bridges and etc
Waynesville is trying to end the use of more than a dozen bridges in the county that are homeless encampments. Bridges are NC Dot property which limits local enforcement authority

January 04, 2022

NC Office of Management and Budget announces the availability of funds to help homeowners with repairs to homes in Haywood County which were damages in Hurricane Fred flood.
A NC Highway Patrol officer lost control of his car and hit another NC Highway Patrol car, the officer, and a citizen being cited for a violation. The impact caused the death of both High Patrol Officer and the person being cited. The deceased officer is the brother of driver of the Highway Patrol which collided with the stopped vehicles

January 05, 2022

A tractor trailer wreck on Interstate 40 at Canton forced a four hour closure of the road under frigid conditions. The COVID Variant has plagues north Carolina with almost 13,000 current cases this week, 31 deaths, and 136 hospitalizations. The majority of the cases are anti-vaxers and those with underlying health issues.

January 06, 2022

A car stolen in Knoxville, TN on Christmas was seen in Swain County earlier this week. A Swain County Officer blocked the narrow rural road with his patrol car and lights flashing. The

driver of the stolen car crashed head on into the patrol car then ran. He was arrested along with an accomplice and both in Swain County Jail under a seventy five thousand dollars bond each. Haywood County has gotten authorization to erect no trespassing signs at a dozen bridges in Haywood County so they can arrest homeless persons who are camping under the bridges. Officers are working with local non-profit agencies to try to provide housing for the homeless

January 07, 2022

The Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians are trying to buy a four acre tract of land on Shepherds Creek in order to secure a permanent road right of way to the thirty two hundred acre track of land near Bryson City. Portions of the larger tract are not easily accessible for use because the property owner closes the secondary road on private land on Shepherd's Creek. The purchase of the land would allow for a large number of houses to be constructed on the land.

January 10, 2022

A 42-year old Macon County Man awaiting sentencing for setting forest fires in 2020. Fire burned 75 acres of NC Forest Service land. Haywood County including 2.5% pay raise for teachers in next budget. Blue Ridge Parkway having a Public Hearing concerning Dominion Energy's request for an easement under the road for a gas pipeline

January 11, 2022

The number of COVID Cases in Cherokee has increased substantially, presumed to be connected to careless behavior over the holidays. WCU Students return to college today under a mask mandate. Some Transylvania County parents demanding a mask mandate while others are fighting mandates

January 12, 2022

Mainspring Conservation Trust received noting of their accreditation being renewed as a National Land Trust. Lake Junaluska has completed their water draw down for maintenance on the dam. The facility is expected to reopen by Easter. Jackson County Public Health announced the available of the CDC approved COVID Booster shots

January 13, 2022

A Go-Fund-Me account has been established for a Little Savannah Community who lost all their stuff in a house fire. NC Wildlife is proposing the end of the bear sanctuary in the Panthertown Valley. Two Macon County people are in jail after a routine traffic stop yielded three ounces of heroin. Unemployment rate 3% from October in Jackson County

January 14, 2022

A Swain County woman is dead after being hit head on Highway 74 west of Bryson City. She was driving on the wrong side of the four lane road. The other driver survived but is seriously injured. The state Supreme Court approved the republicans Gerrymandered district map but the decision will be appealed. A lawsuit to rule Madison Cauthorn unfit for office after being a key player in the January 6th insurrection has been put on hold.

January 17, 2022

After a response to a 9-1-1 call in Canton, law enforcement located the body of 34-year-old Brandon Lee Gibson beside a road in town. Haywood County Rescue Squad members located a missing hiker who was caught in the rural area by a severe winter storm. The roof of a dormitory at Brevard College collapsed in the recent snow storm. An investigation has now been able to determine the cause. Three hundred thirty trucks and 55 road graders were used to keep 16,000 miles of roads open during the recent snow storm

January 18, 2022

Still no definite word on what caused a roof collapse at a Brevard College Dormitory. A 100 year old home in Asheville was destroyed by fire last week. It is believed the building was a refuge for homeless people who may have accidentally set the house on fire. Cataloochee Ski Resort is open with the seasons best conditions

January 19, 2022

A shortage of volunteer firefighters in Sylva has led fire chief Mike Beck to seek permission from the town to ask the county for funding for at least two paid fire fighters in Sylva. It is expected that full time firefighters will be employed at three or four major fire departments. In spite of COVID the Jackson County School Board has been able to keep all nine schools open full time.

January 20, 2022

Haywood County has hired a company to provide ongoing free COVID Testing. Haywood County has set records for the past two weeks for the number of COVID cases. A storm is headed to North Carolina this weekend so the Governor has already signed off on a State of Emergency. Tennessee emergency services using a helicopter has rescued a man trapped in waste deep snow in the park

January 21, 2022

A female driver in Haywood fell asleep while driving her car, hit a utility pole, turned over then crashed into a house. She was charged with driving while under the influence. A Macon county man has been found guilty of setting a fire which burned seventy acres of Forest Service land in Macon County, he could face five years in prison and a quarter of a million dollars fine.

January 24, 2022

A woman in Haywood attacked a police office on Russ Avenue with a knife. After her arrest she was found to be in possession of drugs, weapons, and cash. The Cherokee Indian Reservation has reported over 400 cases of COVID this week which is a record. WCU Art Students now have their work on display at the Asheville Airport

January 25, 2022

The North Carolina Legislature and the Department of Natural Resources has set aside \$38 million dollars for stream reclamation following the Hurricane Fred disaster. Haywood County is expected to get some of that money to reestablish the stream and remove debris that could clog the river in a future storm

January 26, 2022

Haywood County is again a COVID Hotspot with 194 cases this week. The free testing site is now open and staying busy, But the number of hospitalizations is down. WCU is listed in US News as one of the best colleges for on line B.S. business degree programs

January 27, 2022

A car parked at Woodland Inn caught fire on Sunday the back of the car burned before firefighters and extinguished the blaze. The heat melted some of the vinyl siding on the structure. Four fire departments answered the call. Jackson County School Superintendent Dr Dana Ayers reported that three preschools will be offered in the fall of 2022. The Board of Education received a \$350,000 grant to fund the expansion. Several downtown businesses and funding from the federal government has allowed free WiFi to be available in downtown Sylva

January 28, 2022

The State Supreme Court is going to review the new Gerrymandered political district maps. This will force the postponement of the primary till at least May. The Jackson County office is again offering the free safety seminar for churches to create an action plan in case of an active shooter. North Carolina Co-operative Extension employees are getting a 2.5% increase in compensation if approved in this year's budget

January 31, 2022

The Town of Canton has approved the expenditure of \$105 thousand to lease mobile office units after the structures owned by the town were damaged by the flooded Pigeon River caused by Hurricane Fred. A fire at a closed car wash in Waynesville was apparently caused by homeless persons who were using the facility as a shelter from winter conditions. The local student enrollment at WCU has dropped 2.7% while the out of town enrollment has increased.

February 01, 2022

Smoky Mountain High School reported the reception of a social media threat targeting Jackson County school students. A suspect has been identified. Apparently the villain was a kid trying to impress a girl. A Brevard woman has been sentenced to ten years in prison after being found guilty of drug trafficking. Twenty year old Forest Cole Stamper in Cherokee has been sentenced to 15 years supervised probation for child abuse and required to register as a sex offender.

February 02, 2022

Applications are being accepted for this summer's Haywood County Farmers Market. AmeriCorps workers have arrived in Haywood County to help with the clean-up of homes in the Cruso Community. Lake Junaluska has completed the water draw down so the lake can be cleaned up.

February 03, 2022

Cherokee resident The Jackson County School Board has extended the mask mandate for another month. They feel the mandate has contributed to a reduction in the number of students infected

with COVID. Following up on a story from Tuesday, a two hour delay in the start of the school day due to weather may have saved some panic since law enforcement had cleared the school after a called in threat before students arrived

February 04, 2022,

It is anticipated that 500 loads of trash will be removed from the lake bed. A pair of Haywood County grand parents are challenging the DSS over the taking of their grandkids in what they feel is an improper removal from the family

February 07, 2022,

The Angel Medical Center in Franklin has entered their final phase of construction with the anticipation of being able to occupy the building in September. Food Lion has made a grant in the amount of \$1500 to United Christian Ministries to be used to restock the Food Pantry

February 08, 2022

Haywood County has received an additional grant to create a hazard mitigation program so they will not be faced with another disaster should the Pigeon River flood again. The Body of 40 year old Robert Kelly was found in the Pigeon River Sunday. No foul play is suspected in the death. Sylva is hearing petitions from the restaurants that sell alcoholic beverages to establish social zones which permit the drunks to drink in public, and designed to keep families away from those areas and turn the space over to the drunks.

February 09, 2022

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is asking people to check off for a part of their tax refund to go to the states endangered species fund. Sylva received a grand from the Federal Government Relief Fund to be used to refurbish Bryson Park which has been damaged by a dirt slide and to construct public toilets in downtown Sylva. The State Supreme Court has agreed to review the state political maps.

Swain County High School Football Coach Neil Blankenship has taken a leave of absence from football but will remain Athletic Director. He stated family issues as the reason for taking the Leave

February 10, 2022

The Jackson County Department of Public Health is offering their year long lifestyle change program for diabetes prevention. The construction of the Jackson County Animal shelter is nearing completion with expectation of being ready for grassing in by spring. The Governor has approved a plan to permit retired teachers to work part-time without jeopardizing their retirement benefits.

February 11, 2022

Jackson County Schools Superintendent Dr Dana Ayers is urging parents to more closely monitor their children's on line habits because things posted can create legal problems for parents. This can include both threats and pornography. A female Georgia truck driver received a light sentence for her involvement in a tractor trailer wreck in Dillsboro which took the life of

one person and involved five automobiles in the accident. The Governor is getting heat from the Republican House of Representatives to drop the state's mask mandate.

February 14, 2022

Heart Disease is the leading cause of death in Jackson County, The Department of Public Health is developing heart healthy programs for February which is heart month. The State Supreme Court is hearing arguments pertaining to voter id requirements for state elections. The search continues for bodies following an airplane crash off the NC Coast

February 15, 2022

The Haywood County School Board meeting was disrupted by radical extremists demanding an end to the mask mandate for public schools. The Sylva Town Board had a public hearing for the purpose of gathering public comments for designating areas of town for the drunks to have open containers and drinking without violations.

February 16, 2022

Harris Cardiology Dr Westermeyer says it is better to take care of your heart that try to adjust to a rebuilt heart. The SBI is investigating a death at Our Place Inn after the body of a deceased person was discovered last week.

February 17, 2022

Jackson County Schools voted to remove the mask mandate affected February 21, 2022. Filing for public office campaigns opens on February 24th. Haywood County parents are still furious that the public school mask mandate is still in place.

February 18, 2022

A ten year old Cherokee boy is being called a hero after rescuing his five year old younger brother from a swollen Soco Creek. It is wondered if parental negligence was the reason the kids were playing in the flooded creek. The state Department of Public Health is offering five thousand dollar grants to local fire departments for personnel. North Carolina Blue Cross and Blue Shield Insurance is setting aside five hundred thousand dollars to be used for mental health counselling for fire fighters. Jackson county is going to match a thirty thousand dollar grant for the opening of five preschools in the county

February 21, 2022

The Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians was expecting one hundred seventeen thousand dollars from the American Rescue Plan but ended up with a hundred sixty thousand dollars. The money will be designated for community health and two point five million to improve the Fire Mountain Bike Trail. The reservation has received approval from the Tribal Counsel to open a liquor store at the junction of US Highway 441 and US Highway 19. Voters can apply for an absentee Ballot until May 10th

February 22, 2022

In Haywood County over 35 thousand yards of residential debris has been removed from property impacted by the flood waters of Hurricane Fred. The Haywood Board of Education and

Department of Public Health are at odds over the ongoing mask requirements in the county and public schools. Twelve Businesses were issued a total of 800 citations and 350 people were cited for alcohol violations to their ABC Permit. Updates to Soco Road in Cherokee are expected to commence in May. Expected modifications include the additional of traffic circles, crosswalks, and islands at intersections.

February 23, 2022

A 74 Unit housing development to be located on Willis Road in Canton has been approved by the county board Commissioners. Approval has been granted for the WNC Train which will run on current rails from Johnson City Tennessee to Murphy NC at the end of April. The Sylva Concerts on The Creek schedule has groups scheduled between May 27 and the end of August

February 24, 2022

The body located at Our Place Inn has been identified as Catherine Pergerson who was a part owner of the establishment. Four area counties have dropped their mask mandate. A family with six children has received twenty thousand dollars from a Go-Fund- Me Page.

February 25, 2022 .

Recovery efforts on Interstate 40 kept a law enforcement officers car and canine unit from plunging 200 feet of the highway into Jonathon Creek. The body of a female kayaker was recovered from Oconaluftee River by Cherokee Search and Rescue. The woman was practicing in the river when her kayak became lodged in the raging waters and under a fallen tree in the stream. Sixteen people have been charged in a drug smuggling operation in Jackson and surrounding counties in a collaborated effort by multiple law enforcement agencies.

February 28, 2022

A gun battle at the McDonalds Parking lot in Cherokee left one person dead, one person airlifted to Mission Hospital in Asheville at a suspect in custody. A Macon County resident has been sentenced for multiple breaking and entering occurrences in Nantahala. The long sentence was applied due to the habitual felon rule. The Brevard Veterans Memorial in Brevard has received a restored WW2 Jeep, a Harley Davidson motorcycle and a woman's exhibit.

March 01, 2022

The Cherokee Central Schools endured a six hour school board meeting to discuss their mask mandate and options for keeping the school cafeteria closed due to COVID. The buncombe County Homeless Diversion Program is getting started to provide shelter for the homeless who do not have a criminal record to keep them from camping under bridges and on public lands. The NC Legislature has required the Dept of Public Instruction to ascertain the effectiveness of out of school classes in the achievement of students not attending in person classes due to COVID

March 02, 2022

A Hayesville man has confessed to the murder of a Cherokee county woman three years ago. Her partially burned body was found under a pile of trash. He was sentenced to 200 months in prison. The NC Forest service is conducting a series of prescribed burns in Nantahala. The NC Highway Patrol is having Operation Safe Drive this weekend with additional cops on patrol statewide

March 03, 2022

Speeding has been identified as the cause of a wreck in Canton last week that kept Highway 23-19 closes for hours last week. 20 Year old Ryder Lucas Sneed has been identified as the person who shot two people at the Cherokee McDonalds parking lot last week. Thirty three year old Steven Kurzman in Cherokee has been found guilty of kicking a two year old child and breaking the child's leg. He will spend 393 months in prison. Seventeen people have been arrested in a plot to sell inmate at the Jackson County Detention Center with drugs. Alan Cagle is now in prison under thirty thousand dollars bond

March 04, 2022

The Jackson County Sheriff's Department has called off the boots on the ground search for 25 year old Alan Fortner who has been missing since February 21st. A South Carolina man, Jonathon Andrew Wilds has been charged with rape and taking indecent liberties with a child in Cherokee. Today is the deadline to file for the March 17th primary campaign.

March 07, 2022

Reports are that former congressman Mark Meadows likely committed voter fraud in the last election by voting in Macon County where he was not a resident at the address provided, and also attempted to vote in Buncombe County where he had a claimed residence. An Asheville man ran his car into the police officers vehicle when they responded to a domestic violence call

March 08, 2022

The Madison County Sheriff's Office evacuated 85 inmates on Sunday after a fire damaged the Detention Center. Most of the inmates were relocated to Buncombe County, the others were being held at an undisclosed location. The old Haywood County Hospital has been converted to a 54 unit low income housing apartment. Occupancy is expected to commence immediately.

March 09, 2022

The Governor has proclaimed this at National Weather preparedness Week and Haywood County is having a preparedness public hearing at Crest View Baptist Church this week. A Haywood County man has won \$150,000 in the state Scratch Off lottery.

March 10, 2022

Harris Hospital announced that three D Mammograms are now available at all three hospital locations. Jackson County Dept of public Health is conducting their annual health needs survey. They are also providing resources to observe National Nutrition Month. An Operation Medicine Drop is being Conducted march 22nd at the Department On Aging

March 11, 2022

The Clingman's Dome road will have lane closures this summer as the road goes through scheduled upgrades. The NC Wildlife Resources Commission voted to adopt the proposals presented at a couple of public hearings in February including opening some bear sanctuaries which were not popular among some people. Haywood County Middle School will remain

closed after sustaining major damage from Hurricane Fred. The county has not found a new location for the school and FEMA will not pay for repairs if the school remains in the flood plain.

March 14, 2022

35 year old Shawn Standingdeer pled guilty to the rape of a minor female who later gave birth to a child which DNA proved was Standingdeer's child. 20 year old Lucas Sneed faces multiple felonies after shooting two people and killing one at the Cherokee McDonalds parking lot. Former Smoky Mountain High School coach Dolphus Brown was seriously injured in a vehicle accident in Cullowhee. He is expected to recover

March 15, 2022

The eighty eight year old Canton Middle School seriously damaged by the Hurricane Fred Flood. The county is now seeking grant funds to build a new school. The Great Smokies National Park is looking for volunteers to help with traffic control and other visitor assistance assignments. One person was found dead in a burned out mobile home in Otto, foul play is not suspected.

March 16, 2022

The Cherokee Central School System is the first system in the state to receive an all-electric school bus. They hope to be the first system in the state to have an all-electric fleet. A Buncombe county woman with a vanity license plate reading FART has been directed to get a different plate. The initials are an acronym for a local non-profit organization.

March 17, 2022

An investigation continues into the cause of death of a Macon County woman who was found dead in the Jackson County Detention Center jail cell. 39 year old Lee Ann Cunningham was found dead Friday. A follow-up of the March 14 story, Shawn Standingdeer will spend up to 340 months in prison for impregnating an underage female in Cherokee.

March 18, 2022

A Haywood County theft ring has been links to a possible forty catalytic converters stolen from automobiles. Calvin Glenn Medford has been arrested and charged with running the operation. Jackson County Schools is in desperate need of school bus drivers with numerous drivers having to do double duty. A Macon County man is in prison after being captured after a high speed chase after he fled from a domestic violence situation when police arrived on the scene.

March 21, 2022

Thirty seven year old Nathaniel Rapper has pled guilty to kidnapping a woman then hitting her in the face resulting in a broken jaw. The charges resulted from his violation to a restraining order. A thirty three year old Alarka man is in prison after being found guilty of impregnating a fourteen year old girl. His plea that she looked older than fourteen even though he knew she was underage did not impress the judge.

March 22, 2022

The Dogwood Health trust has given the Jackson County Schools \$130,000 to build accessible playgrounds at three elementary schools, the county is matching with a \$30,000. grant.

March 23, 2022

Approximately one thousand miles of trout streams will open for fishing on Saturday morning. The Wildlife Resources Commission has stocked about a million fish in the Month of March so most anyone fishing can catch a fish. The Jackson County Clean and Liter Task Force is seeking volunteers to help with the two week litter pick-up in the county. Over a ton of trash is expected to be picked up.

March 24, 2022

The number of unaffiliated voters in the state now exceeds the number of individuals registered either as a Republican or Democrat. This is the first time this has even happened. The North Carolina Attorney General's office is looking into the voting practice of former congressman Mark Meadows who tried to vote twice. He knew there were voting irregularities because he did it and wanted to blame the Democrats.

March 25, 2022

Weaverville is soliciting applications for their Art and Autumn Festival. The Jackson County Department of Public Health Survey indicated that about 50% of the population is engaged in about 150 minutes of activity per week. Fifty two year old Archie Picklesimer of Highlands was found guilty of hanging around the recreation park which he is prohibited from doing, and failed to register as a sex offender.

March 28, 2022

A Haywood County man has been found guilty of selling fentanyl laced methamphetamine to a Weaverville man. The concoction was strong enough to be lethal. Two forest fires are burning in the Smoky Mountains National Park in Swain County have spread to over 700 acres.

March 29, 2022

A ten year old Jackson County boy shot and killed his fifteen year old brother then turned the gun upon himself. He too died later at Mission Hospital in Asheville. Jackson County Cooperative Extension Director Robert Hawk is leading a program of Ski walking as an exercise program. The Thomas Divide Fire is now 60% contained but a dangerous situation exists with 70 mile per hour winds predicted for later today

March 30, 2022

Lowes announced a four million dollar grant to two North Carolina Colleges to support their schools of business; they are Queens College in Charlotte and NC Central in Greensboro. A fire in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee has grown to over a thousand acre during the afternoon being driven by seventy mile per hour winds. Hot Shots from the Thomas Divide Fire were sent to Tennessee to help try to get the blaze under control

March 31, 2022

Both the fires in Tennessee near Pigeon Forge are under control, and trails are reopening in Great Smokies National Park in North Carolina. Sylva agreed to pay Attorney Eric Ridenour \$250.00 for the first hour of and meeting of the Sylva Town Board then \$200.00 for any remaining time. Several people were selected to serve on Sylva Town Boards. They were able to select from a large pool of applicants. Wild Turkey season opens this weekend with a season limit of two

Section C: Carolina Newsmakers

Content provided by the North Carolina News Network

Interviews are conducted by Don Curtis

Airs Sunday afternoon at 5:00 P-M till 6:00 P-M

JANUARY 02, 2022

INTERVIEW: MIKE WALDEN, ECONOMIST AND PROFESSOR AT NC STATE

Topics: North Carolina had a record number of jobs expansion in 2021 including many more hospitality and tourism jobs that were in place in 2020 prior to the pandemic. Industrial jobs are also expanding at a rapid rate and North Carolina has the 4th fastest growing population. Growth is expected to grow rapidly in the Triad and Research Triangle Park. The state passed a budget for the first time in several years. There are concerns about the solvency of Social Security which is expected to go into the red in 2034, there are several ways to make it sustainable since republicans started raiding the fund under Ronald Reagan to pay for his budget cuts and wars.

JANUARY 9, 2022

INTERVIEW: MIKE CAUSEY, NC INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

Topics: The problem with insurance fraud including staged accidents, there are five to six thousand complaints a year. The United States loses about \$120 billion a year to insurance fraud. Medicare open enrollment is here so sign up SHIP assistance is available to those who need it.

JANUARY 16, 2022

INTERVIEW: DALE FOLWELL, NORTH CAROLINA INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

Topics: The North Carolina Pension plan is five times greater than the state budget. The fund lost a substantial amount of money in the recession but has recovered most of the losses. Retirees will receive a 2.5% pay increase this year. The state health plan is undergoing consolidation among companies and is expected to save five billion dollars over ten years. Inflation hits the state hard from buildings going to construction such as at the university, also the state has a lot of vehicles which will be impacted by higher gas prices.

JANUARY 23, 2022

INTERVIEW: HOPE WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE COLLEGES

Topics: There are 36 independent state colleges but they do receive federal funds based upon the per cap of each student. Students leave a private college with about \$26,000 in student loan debt. Many students depart the area around the school after graduation, High Point College has the highest retention rate in the state.

JANUARY 30, 2022

INTERVIEW: JOSH STEIN, STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Attorney General's office has been overwhelmed with complaints during the pandemic. If you feel you are victim of a scam call 877-5-no scam. Drug addiction and ultimate deaths set records in 2021. 126 hospitals received compensation from drug overdose trust fund which is earmarked for drug treatment programs, DDA Needs to establishing a Vaping standard, EBCI is moving forwards to construct 100 homes on the 3,000 tract. Dispose of unwanted and unneeded medications

FEBRUARY 6, 2022

INTERVIEW: JOHN HOOD PRESIDENT OF THE JOHN LOCKE FOUNDATION

Topics: Legal challenges to the states redrawn congressional maps, Pushback from Republicans for the President Biden's nomination to the Supreme Court. SC Senator Lindsey Graham is a fool. A call to end racial preference at UNC since it is used in a way to promote racial bias. North Carolina does not have sufficient roads to handle the expected increase in traffic. Speeding on interstates has increased to an all time high

FEBRUARY 13, 2022

INTERVIEW: STEVE WOLLENBACK, PRES. OF THE NC HOSPITAL ASSOC. Topics: The North Carolina Hospitals are much more trained and have performed very well under the strain of COVID. Telemedicine has exploded and many medical professionals need to update their resumes, Mask improvements are critical in the reduction of COVID cases. Small towns need to focus more on home grown talent.

FEBRUARY 20, 2022

INTERVIEW: ANDY ALLEN, PRED. NC RETAIL MERCHANTS ASSOC.

Topics: Inflation is hurting the hotel and restaurant business because of the prices. The supply chain is running up prices from transportation, processing, fertilizer, equipment. Inventories have not kept up with the hoarding, with COVID becoming less and less invasive so perhaps more workers will be available. Brick and mortar stores are increasing and adding more on line sales. Christmas retail was up 8% and January was up 3.8 %

FEBRUARY 28, 2022

INTERVIEW: DAVID BOLICK JR, CHAIR OF THE UNC BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Topics: Explained the make up of the UNC Board of Governors and the System Board of Governors, explained the incredible amount of research going on in the UNC System. Weakness is the lack of a unified budget, every college for themselves. There is not generally enough

money generated by women's sports to make women's sports self-sustaining. UNC has a very high cutting score for enrollment, once a student is accepted you have to have a place for them. There is also a cap on the number of students transferring in from Community Colleges

MARCH 6, 2022

INTERVIEW: LYNN MANDEZ, PRESIDENT NC RESTAURANT AND LODGING ASSOC

Topics: The hotel and restaurant economy is rebounding with the return of weddings, business travel, conventions and concerts. Many of those businesses incurred massive debt to remain open during the pandemic and are now being forced to be creative to pay it off. Restaurants that were able to adapt to carry out were in many cases able to thrive and continue to offer and even expand that option. With the demand for better wages and benefits many establishments are finding it harder than anticipated to pay off debt, pay more wages, and make a profit. Hotel construction was not affected very much during the pandemic.

MARCH 13, 2022

INTERVIEW: BRAD THOMAS, CAROLINA CONNECTIONS NEWS SERVICE

Topics: The latest polling shows that 60% of the voters in North Carolina are registered as unaffiliated. This is the first time in history for this voter preference. The State Supreme Court said that congressional districts can be drawn to favor the party in power and elections have consequences. If Republicans win the seats on the Supreme Court then a call to redraw the districts may soon follow.

MARCH 20, 2022

INTERVIEW: DALE FOLWELL, NC STATE TREASURER

Topics: Inflation is a thief that is costing citizens more to eat, drive, and live. It has a negative effect on state debt, but the state has taken steps to refinance as many of the loans for capital projects and the amount of debt is expected to drop by 70% in the next eight years. Unless something is done about the state medical health care for retirees, the costs will bankrupt the state. Efforts are underway now to cap some of those expenditures and investigate the massive profits and outrageous levels of pay for medical company executives.

MARCH 27, 2022

INTERVIEW: CONGRESSMAN DAVID PRICE, FOURTH DISTRICT NORTH CAROLINA

Topics: This is the last term for the 81 year old congressman. He was shocked that Russia would go against the current world order and attack a sovereign country, the United States has imposed the most severe sanctions ever but dozens of countries are siding with Russia. He feels Russia can not take, hold, nor rebuild Ukraine and that the Russian economy will be strangled for decades. To put further pressure on Russia more countries need to make different plans for their oil and gas. He wall between Republicans and Democrats has never been larger and republicans have no interest in any negotiating with Democrats and are inclined to an authoritarian government behind trump.

Section D: Community Agencies and Non-Profits

Public Service Announcements

United Christian Ministries	Their expanded food pantry and needs workers and donations. Fundraiser scheduled for March
Chamber of Commerce	STIR events are starting back up
Community Kitchen in Canton	Reopened after Pigeon River Flood needs items for the food pantry, also volunteers
North Carolina Cooperative Extension	4-H Activities and meetings, livestock and bee clubs are now getting started and the Youth Leadership Council
Mainspring Conservation Trust	Sponsoring a Fishing tournament to raise money for their Kids in River program
Jackson County Public Health	Diabetic Winter program is underway.
Jackson County Library	Students still have access to Wi-Fi and computers for their homework when they live where Wi-Fi is not available
Jackson County Library	VITA
NC Works	Job Fair for Summer tourism related jobs
North Carolina Cooperative Extension - Livestock Department	Farm Visits by Livestock agent with information for the pasture care and rotational grazing
North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission	Fishing season closes in March
North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission	Public hearing on proposed regulation changes
North Carolina Forest Service	Intermittent burning ban in effect
Live Forgiveness Church	Free food available on various Sundays
Harris and Swain Hospital	Heart Month campaign
American Legion Post 104	Meetings each month
Jackson County Chamber of Commerce	STIR Events are starting back up
Jackson County Dept on Aging	Volunteers needed for Meals on Wheels
Smoky Mountain High School	Winter sports schedules

Smoky Mountain School Board	Dire Need for Bus Drivers
Mountain Projects	Volunteer Income Tax Assistance
Great Smoky Mountains National Park	Road closures due to huge fire
Great Smoky Mountains National Park	Keep distance from the elk, and warnings of bear activity along the Parkway
WNC Blood Connection	Collecting blood plasma from people who have had COVID and may have immunity
Equinox Ranch	Soliciting a contingent of veterans for PTSD treatment
SCC Job Fair	Health Professionals job fair
Community Table in Sylva	Offering take out meals
Mountain Projects	Offering a two day Trauma resilient community seminar
Jackson County Health Department	Covid Testing and vaccines
Jackson County Department on Aging	Volunteers needed for Project Fire

Programs and Issues for the FIRST quarter of 2022 for WRGC Radio station in Sylva, NC