2nd Quarter 2015

Issues and Programs for WJTC

Issues addressed:

Public Safety
Consumer Awareness
Public Health
Education
Crime

Regularly Scheduled Programs:

Facing Florida – Saturdays at 8am Weekly issues program discussing the pressing issues facing Northwest Florida's community.

Local 15 News on WJTC – Daily local news programs
WJTC's daily newscasts give considerable time to issues that concern the communities of the South Alabama and Western Florida areas.

6:30 –7pm	WJTC News at 6:30	M-F
9pm –9:30	WJTC News at 9:00	M-F

Facing Florida

April 4th & 11th

Rod Smith talks about big tobacco's efforts to exempt themselves from billions in liability. Rick Versace on the fight between taxis, limos, and Uber. Mark Schlakman on the future of Florida's death penalty hinging on the U.S. Supreme Court.

April 18th

Three weeks remain for state lawmakers to wrap up – will they finish? Analysts Pete Dunbar and Screven Watson think it's almost certain there will be overtime. We talk water and the slam to Americans for Prosperity.

April 25th

Politico's Mark Caputo weighs in on Jeb vs. Marco. Mark DeFriest has been in prison since 1979 after being sentenced to 4 years for taking the tools his deceased father said were his. Meet documentary filmmaker Gabriel London and hear about the nightmare that has kept a mentally ill man in prison for more than three decades.

May 2nd & 9th

Veteran journalist Bill Cotterell joins us for a look at the dysfunctional 2015 legislative session. Sex abuse advocate and victim Lauren Book completes her 6th walk across Florida and is here to share her story.

May 16th & 23rd

Dr. Peter Vincent Pry, author and national security expert on the threat from skies, no not planes, but electromagnetic pulses. Join us for a discussion that will open your eyes to perhaps the greatest threat facing national security.

May 30th

Will Abberger on how lawmakers are getting Amendment 1 funding wrong, just in time for the special session. Bill Cotterell journalist on the prospects of the special session.

June 6th & 13th

Pete Dunbar on why legislative special sessions are indeed special. We also spend the morning with sea turtle expert Bill Wargo.

Local 15 News on WJTC

Public Safety

6/23/2015 Local 15 News at 9PM (WJTC) trt: 50

Uber, the ride sharing service, is coming to Mobile and people are concerned about the safety of the service. During a public safety committee meeting topics were discussed including how Uber handles background checks.

6/24/2015 Local 15 News 9PM (WJTC) trt: 43

The City of Prichard is in need of recruits for their public safety department. Their police department has less than 30 patrol officer. Officials say they have a hard time keeping public safety officials, partly due to the low starting salary.

Consumer Awareness

6/23/2015 Local 15 News at 6:30PM (WJTC) trt: 41

General Mills is removing artificial flavors and colors from artificial sources in their products. The company will now use more recognizable and familiar ingredients to create the desired colors and flavors. Though there is a change, consumers should not notice a difference.

5/27/2015 Local 15 News at 6:30PM (WJTC) trt: 37

According to the real estate website Zillow, rent is on the rise. April rental rates were 4% higher than a year ago – that's the fastest increase in two years.

Public Health

6/29/2015 Local 15 News at 6:30PM (WJTC) trt: 1:06

If you think all the food poisoning issues are in mom's potato salad that is sweating all day in the sun during the pool party, think again. Improperly cooked meat at the BBQ, listeria on ice cream, mold and dust from your A/C unit are all things you should be aware of during your summer vacation.

6/25/2015 Local 15 News at 6:30PM (WJTC) trt: 43

Free HIV testing was underway during the time. The Mobile County Health Department and AIDS Alabama South along with Franklin Primary Health Center and Wallgreens offered the tests.

Education

6/17/2015 Local 15 News at 6:30PM (WJTC) trt: 58

A new challenge is encouraging Alabama students to continue learning while school is out. The Summer Learning Challenge provides a series of free resources for parents and gives students the tools needed to succeed. It's part of a campaign put on by the State Department of Education.

6/12/2015 Local 15 News at 9PM (WJTC) trt: 51

The Alabama Board of Education has approved initial guidelines for regulating future charter schools in the state. The guidelines are rules temporarily set in place before a June 17 deadline. Charter schools are publicly funded schools exempt from some curriculum and other requirements on regular schools.

Crime

6/30/2015 Local 15 News at 9PM (WJTC) trt: 1:11

Mobile Police say they have received numerous calls from concerned citizens regarding a woman who was shot in the face but they still have no leads in the case. The only thing police have is a video depicting a group of black men in the late teens or early twenties. Investigators believe the shooting was random and the suspects may have been trying to steal the victim's car.

6/26/2015 Local 15 News at 9PM (WJTC) trt:58

Residents at the Azalea Pointe Apartments in Mobile are again on the edge after a violent crime spree. In one night a robbery, shooting and even a kidnapping occurred. MPD say two men held up another man at the complex around 11PM, took his property and then shot him in the leg. Then around 4AM a woman say three people armed with a handgun forced their way inside her apartment and demanded cash.