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Issues and Programs: Serving the Public

WELS-FM, Kinston; WNCT (AM), Greenville; and WAVQ, Jacksonville; ("Stations"), ascertain in an ongoing basis the Issues affecting the communities we serve ("Listening Area").

The following list represents what the General Manager in collaboration with the Program Directors, and interactions with community leaders have determined to be the primary Issues in the Stations' Listening Areas.

The quarterly Issues and Programs Report provides the public file with the date, time, duration, and content of issues that the station has ascertained as most important and the programming the station has broadcast responsive to these issues.

The Issues Ascertained by the Station

During this reporting period, we have identified a total of eleven (11) Issues that affect our Listening Area. Each "issue" has been discussed on programs associated with it.

- 1. Education
- 2. Politics
- 3. <u>Crime</u>
- 4. Child Care
- 5. Elections
- 6. Transportation
- 7. Economic Development
- 8. Health Care
- 9. Economics
- 10. Government/Political Affairs

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11. Law Enforcement

Following is a listing of some of the community events held and/or supported by Stations, WELS/WNCT/WAVQ, along with the issues addressed or supported by the event or proceed from the event for the period 7/1/23 - 9/30/23. This listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

7/1 – 9/30 COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Station personalities went out into the local community to promote, visit, and support local events, locations, and businesses. Events participated in include the "7 Days For the Troops" event in Jacksonville on 7/10, "Canines For Service" Ride in Jacksonville on 7/15, and promotion of "Hire A Veteran Day" on 7/25. In August, we promoted two "Back To School" Supply drives, as well as the North Carolina Freedom Festival in Goldsboro. In September, the station promoted POW/MIA Recognition Day on 9/15 and "The Wall That Heals" appearing in Havelock, coming up in November. Ascertained issues discussed: 8, 9

7/1/ - 9/30 WEATHER ADVISORIES

Live updates and information regarding pending and current weather events including weather locations, types, precautions, and utility outages. Ascertained issues discussed: 4, 6

Many other community events and causes received on-air coverage and/or support during the period 7/1/23 - 9/30/23. This listing includes a sample of those topics.

Carolina Newsmakers is a weekly hour-long program hosted by owner Don Curtis. Carolina Newsmakers features guests with discussions on the Issues and Problems for the Station.

Carolina Newsmakers airs at 6am every Sunday Morning and is 25-30 minutes long. This program is hosted each week by station owner Don Curtis. The following is each story carried on Carolina Newsmakers. Please note the date for each broadcast, as well as the corresponding number for the Issue as described herein.

Carolina Newsmakers Content Third Quarter - 2023

7-2

INTERVIEW WITH JOHN HOOD - PRESIDENT OF THE JOHN WILLIAM POPE FOUNDATION REDISTRICTING, SUPREME COURT RULINGS, EDUCATION, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, DONALD TRUMP, INDICTMENTS, 2024 ELECTION, POLITICS, ABORTION, HEALTH CARE, TRANSGENDER ATHLETES, POLLING, AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE. ISSUES DISCUSSED: 1, 2, 8, 10

7-9

INTERVIEW WITH KEVIN GUSKIEWICZ - CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH

CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL EDUCATION, ROLE OF THE CHANCELLOR, PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES, RECRUITMENT, COVID-19, COST OF EDUCATION, TUITION, STUDENT DEBT, STUDENT POPULATION GROWTH, CAROLINA COVENANT, ATHLETICS, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM, MILITARY, BUDGET, AND FUNDRAISING. ISSUED DISCUSSED: 1, 8, 10

7-16

INTERVIEW WITH WAYNE GOODWIN – COMMISSIONER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES TRANSPORTATION, DMV BACKGROUND, LICENSE AND RENEWAL, TESTING, GRADUATED LICENSES, KIOSKS, REAL ID, COVID-19, COMMERCIAL LICENSES, LICENSE AND THEFT, ODOMETER FRAUD, AND INSPECTIONS. ISSUES DISCUSSED: 3, 6, 8,

7-23

INTERVIEW WITH BRUCE STANLEY - PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE METHODIST HOME FOR CHILDREN GUN SAFETY, ADOLESCENTS, EARLY CHILDHOOD, GANGS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, BULLYING, EDUCATION, PSYCHOLOGY, ATHLETICS, BINGE DRINKING, ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA, DRINKING AGE, FAMILY SUPPORT, FUNDING, FOSTER CARE, AND JUVENILE JUSTICE. ISSUES DISCUSSED: 3, 4, 8

7-30

INTERVIEW WITH STEVE LAWLER - PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE NORTH CAROLINA HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATION HEALTH CARE, HOSPITALS, COST OF CARE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICAID EXPANSION, COVID-19, MENTAL HEALTH, CERTIFICATE OF NEED, RURAL AND URBAN HOSPITAL CHALLENGES, ADVERTISING, PRESCRIPTION DRUGS, AND LEGISLATION. ISSUES DISCUSSED: 2, 8, 10

8-6

INTERVIEW WITH BRAD CRONE - PRESIDENT OF CAMPAIGN CONNECTIONS POLITICS, TRUMP INDICTMENTS, ECONOMY, NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY, HOUSE SPEAKER, COUNCIL OF STATE, HEALTH CARE, EDUCATION, AND GAMBLING. ISSUES DISCUSSED: 2, 8, 9, 10

8-13

INTERVIEW WITH DR. JEFF COX - PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM EDUCATION, GOVERNANCE, COLLABORATION WITH K-12 SYSTEM, DUAL ENROLLMENT, TRANSFERING CREDIT, TUITION, UNIVERSITY SYSTEM, ECONOMY, FUNDING, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, TAXATION, WAGES, AND HEALTH. ISSUES DISCUSSED: 1, 8, 9, 10

8-20

INTERVIEW WITH MIKE CAUSEY - COMMISSIONER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE INSURANCE, AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE, SPEEDING, DISTRACTED DRIVING, RIDERS, FRAUD, HOMEOWNERS POLICIES, FIRE DEPARTMENTS, SAFE KIDS NC, SCHOOL BUS SAFETY, FRAUD, SMART NC, FLOODS, HURRICANES, AND OPERATION MEDICINE DROP. ISSUES DISCUSSED: 6, 10

8-27

INTERVIEW WITH DAVID CRABTREE - CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF PBS NORTH CAROLINA BROADCASTING, PUBLIC TELEVISION, EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS, COVID-19, BROADCAST NETWORKS, TECHNOLOGY, NEWS MEDIA, VIEWERSHIP, ROLE OF CONTENT, STATION NETWORK, AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING. ISSUES DISCUSSED: 4, 8

9-3

INTERVIEW WITH DR. MIKE WALDEN - NC STATE ECONOMICS PROFESSOR EMERITUS ECONOMY, UNEMPLOYMENT, INFLATION, COVID-19, TUITION, FEDERAL RESERVE, HOUSING MARKET, STUDENT DEBT, GAS PRICES, UKRAINE WAR, CHINA AND STOCK MARKET. ISSUES DISCUSSED: 2, 9,10

9-10

INTERVIEW WITH KAREN BRINSON BELL - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS ELECTIONS, VOTING, VOTER FRAUD, ELECTION SECURITY, EARLY VOTING, ABSENTEE BALLOTS, VOTING MACHINES, PRIMARIES, ELECTION WORKERS, VOTER ID, CAMPAIGN FINANCE, AND CYBER ATTACKS. ISSUES DISCUSSED: 2, 5, 10

9-17

INTERVIEW WITH DAVID WORONOFF - PUBLISHER OF THE PILOT PUBLISHING, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS, MEDIA, EDITORIAL, FRANK DANIELS JR, NEWS, TRUSTWORTHINESS, JOURNALISM, BIAS AND SMARTPHONES. ISSUES DISCUSSED: 2, 10

9-24

INTERVIEW WITH SHAWN HARDING - PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FARM BUREAU INFLATION, AGRICULTURE, ECONOMY, INTEREST RATES, EXPORT CROPS, IMPORT CROPS, EDUCATION, RESEARCH, WEATHER, FARM BILL, WILDLIFE, IMMIGRATION, WORKFORCE, INSURANCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND ENERGY. ISSUES DISCUSSED: 2, 7, 9, 10

9-30

INTERVIEW WITH BRAD CRONE - PRESIDENT OF CAMPAIGN CONNECTIONS POLITICS, STATE BUDGET, GAMBLING, EDUCATION, TRANSPORTATION, REDISTRICTING, HEALTHCARE, MEDICAID, MENTAL HEALTH, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, GOVERNOR'S RACE, PRESIDENTIAL RACE, AND COUNCIL OF STATE POSITIONS. ISSUES DISCUSSED: 2, 8, 9, 10