

## TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WEAR-TV  
Location: Pensacola, FL  
Quarter ending: September 30, 2019

ISSUE/description: 2. PUBLIC SAFETY. Informing the public about hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, forest fires, or other life-threatening or property-threatening conditions. Government regulations providing personal safety protection.

### How Issue was treated (Program, PSA, etc.):

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time/Duration</u>	<u>Program type</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Channel 3 News at 6PM	07/02/19	06:00PM/1-minute	News	*

\* Pensacola is gearing up to transform North Palafox Street into a friendlier bicycle and pedestrian safe area. North Palafox Street and Cervantes, currently a four-lane road, will turn into a two lane, multi-modal roadway, with the current outside lanes changed into bike lanes and on-street parallel parking in both directions. The city says they will modify Palafox between Wright and Garden Streets into a "share-road", with lanes for drivers and cyclists. Mayor Grover Robinson said, "The transformation of this section of Palafox Street is just the beginning of our goal to create a more bikeable, walkable city. I'm excited to see this project come to fruition as we implement the Complete Streets concept and build a safer community for all of our residents and visitors – regardless of how they choose to explore Pensacola." City officials say construction on the North Palafox Street Road Diet Project will begin on July 8 and is expected to be completed in 15 days with weather permitting.

2. Channel 3 News at 4PM	07/04/19	04:00PM/2.2 minutes	News	**
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\*\* Temperatures hit a record high this July 4th, reaching 97 degrees, breaking a record set in 1992. The heat index reached 107 degrees. EMT teams with the Pensacola Fire Department (PFD) were stationed at the Sertoma fireworks celebration to help anyone experiencing heat exhaustion. The teams we spoke to said they surprisingly were having a slow day even with the high temperatures. Lieutenant Joshua Szeliga (PFD) says heat exhaustion most often occurs when people do not realize how hot their environment is. "People will overheat quicker than they think," Szeliga said. "We tell people to limit their exposure to the sun and drink plenty of water." Signs of heat exhaustion include excess sweating; hot, flushed skin; sudden headache; someone acting a little "off"; fatigue; muscle cramps; goosebumps, and low blood pressure. Lt. Szeliga says if someone is experiencing heat exhaustion, get him or her out of the hot environment immediately. Then, remove any restrictive clothing. Damp cloths or ice packs can be used to cool the body down.

3. Channel 3 News at 5PM	07/04/19	05:00PM/1.6 minutes	News	***
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\*\*\* Butcher shops and grocery stores all over the area have prepared for the influx of customers this fourth of July. At the Butcher Shoppe in Pensacola, they've tripled their meat order this week, and that's 5,000 pounds of meat. Owner Kevin Green says some of their most popular items include pork ribs, steaks, and brisket. Cooking and preparing your food is very important to avoid illness. Cross-contamination can be a big problem said Green. This is how bacteria spreads. The best recommendation is to separate meats and either use a different cutting board or wash it between different types of meats. You also must make sure that you are cooking meats to the right temperature. Green said it will differ for different meats. Green says investing in a meat thermometer can help assure you that your meat is safe to eat. After cooking your meat how you store it is also important. Green said you need to wait for it to cool down before placing it in the refrigerator. The CDC recommends that you put it in the fridge within two-hour of cooking it or one hour if it's about 90 degrees outside.

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4. Channel 3 News Dayside	07/08/19	11:00AM/1.2 minutes	News	****

\*\*\*\* The City of Pensacola is looking to make their roads more walk-able and bike friendly. Construction on the North Palafox Street Road Diet began Monday. Between Cervantes and Wright Streets the road will transform from a 4-lane to a 2-lane road. The other lane will become parallel parking and new bike lane. From Wright Street to Garden Streets it will become a shared road for drivers and cyclists, and clear markings will be added to the road. "We want to see more walk-ability more bikes, people feeling safer downtown because that's a common question, where can I ride my bike safely," said Mayor Grover Robinson. Eric Hollman, owner of Bike Plus in downtown Pensacola says safety is a major concern among cyclist in the community. Mayor Robinson hopes these new changes will help address safety concerns. "Safety is absolutely a huge reason why we did this we believe if we can find ways to make it safer for pedestrians and for bikers, we are going to create a better quality of life all the way around for our downtown experience," Robinson said. This is a pilot program; the goal is to expand this to other streets around the city in the near future. "I want people to know that we are working on ways to make it safer for you to bike and walk again in all of Pensacola but especially in downtown Pensacola. And this is really the pilot project that we hope to replicate in many other places across the city," Robinson said.

5. Channel 3 News at 5PM	07/11/19	05:00PM/2.1 minutes	News	*****
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\*\*\*\*\* Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties are taking steps to prepare for heavy rainfall from Tropical Storm Barry. Both counties have had crews cleaning up storm drains across the region to reduce the risk of flooding. Aaron Smith, Division Manager for Escambia County Public Works, said his team has also been inspecting retention pond pumps in addition to the storm drains. If the water remains unchecked it can lead to more flooding. "That's where most of the flooding comes from, if you get the heavier rainfalls then you get the systems overwhelmed and there's not much we can do about that; the smaller things - that's the debris in front of the pipes," Smith explained. He said right now the County is paying close attention to how Barry strengthens. "We feel like everything is as ready as can be and we are just monitoring the weather and standing by," Smith said. An area prone to flooding is Navy Point, which was a focus for Smith's team. We spoke to people who live in the area: Tom Markham who said his Navy Point home has been underwater three times before. He said his main concern is for the many people he believes do not have flood insurance across the area. But he said he's not so worried about Tropical Storm Barry, that's a feeling shared by everyone we spoke to in the area. "It rains here on a regular basis and so we have the wisdom to prepare like we are supposed to," Pensacola native Carmen Miller said. "It can flood, it will flood, it will flood again. I don't think this hurricane will have an impact on us though," David Cogswell said. Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties are also both offering sand for residents. You must bring your own bag and shovel. We provided a list of locations to fill sandbags.

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6. Channel 3 News at 10PM	07/11/19	10:00PM/3.6 minutes	News	*****

\*\*\*\*\* Big swells and double red flags flying at Navarre Beach Thursday evening indicate the water is closed to the public. However, it doesn't prohibit surfers from getting into the water because they're attached to a flotation device. While some surfers waited for that gnarly wave, others watched the angry gulf from afar. Tim Galetti is aware of the dangers that are associated with rip currents through others' stories. He said he is thankful to have never experienced nor witnessed it. While Galetti hasn't been through it, Alyx Colley has. "It just comes out of nowhere," she explained. Colley got caught in one when she was 10 years-old while swimming with a friend in Perdido Key. "Of course, I panicked for a little while and then finally I calmed down and was able to get out of there," she said. Admittedly, Colley said she was fortunate enough to have grown up by the water and had parents who told her about what to do if you're caught in a rip current. Not everyone does, because our area is a popular tourist destination. "They just don't understand when they come here how dangerous this paradise can be," said Aaron Telatovich, who is a lifeguard at Navarre Beach. Telatovich has been a lifeguard for 18 seasons and has hundreds of water rescues under his belt. The high rip current risk has lifeguards like him working overtime in the ocean and sand. "We've been out here making rescues and practicing before the day even begins, and so we are a little more confident and used to it," he said. He adds that they plan to talk with every single person as soon as they get to the beach, so they are aware and educated about the risks of rip currents. They also will have another ATV on-hand to monitor conditions along Navarre Beach. On Pensacola Beach, 57 lifeguards will be on-duty to watch over nine miles of beach over this busy weekend. That's about twice the number they typically have.

7. Channel 3 Severe Weather Cut-in	07/13/19	01:41PM/59 minutes	News/Public Affairs	*****
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\*\*\*\*\* We preempted regular programming for our weather team to go on-air warning our viewers in Baldwin county, AL and Escambia county, FL, about a tornado warning for these two adjacent counties. Our meteorologists warned residents in specific communities about the track of the tornado, and when it was expected to hit their community. We also provided specific information on how viewers could protect themselves from the storm.

8. America This Week	07/20/19	10:36PM/15 minutes	Public Affairs	*****
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\*\*\*\*\* We interviewed Acting Director of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Matt Albence, on the increased effort to get undocumented criminals off our streets.

9. Armstrong Williams Show	07/20/19	04:30AM/30 minutes	Public Affairs	*****
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\*\*\*\*\* As the Hurricane and Tornado seasons heat up, we interviewed officials from South Carolina to find what they learned to reduce devastation and save lives, from their experience with the flooding by Hurricane Florence.

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10. Full Measure with Sharyl Attkisson	07/28/19	09:00AM/10 minutes	Public Affairs	*10

\*10 We discussed psychiatry, and how overmedication may be a major problem preventing recovery in many cases.

11. ABC News Nightline	08/01/19	12:03AM/15 minutes	News/Public Affairs	*11
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\*11 Nightline examined the issue of "hot car deaths" and offered safety tips on how to prevent these from occurring.

12. Full Measure with Sharyl Attkisson	08/18/19	09:00AM/10 minutes	Public Affairs	*12
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\*12 Today, one of our topics was the treatment of pain, and alternatives to opioids for treating chronic pain.

13. Channel 3 News at 6PM	08/22/19	06:00PM/2 minutes	News	*13
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\*13 Some University of West Florida students said they have more peace of mind with a new app launched by the University focused on student safety. The new app gives students a quick and direct link to UWF Police and provides the first responders valuable information in the event of an emergency. Users will have to enter their personal information and a photo to use the app. Students can contact the police on or off-campus with the app, send anonymous tips and it even allows police to track your location. The app has a feature that lets the user set a travel time. If the student fails to make it to their destination in the estimated time UWF Police will reach out to make sure they are okay. Angel Patane says, "Let's say I'm leaving the library late, and I don't feel comfortable going out to my car. I can set a timer it's going to take about five minutes to walk from the library to my car. If I haven't checked into the app within those five minutes the UWF campus police will call me and say "Hey, are you ok?" [and] If I don't answer they can track my location." Angel said it's an app every student should download. You will need a UWF email to use the service.

14. Channel 3 News at 6PM	08/27/19	06:00PM/2 minutes	News	*14
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\*14 Pensacola Police said they worked 2,000 crashes in the city last year, and all of them were avoidable. The department has now created a new detail to curb bad driving habits and crack down on traffic violations. During the detail, officers will patrol high-crash areas near Cordova Mall and downtown Pensacola. "It's more probable that crashes will happen here because of the concentration of vehicles," said Sergeant Mark Holmes. Once a month from 3- 8 p.m., nearly a dozen police officers will be on the lookout for drivers breaking the law. That includes running red lights, distracted driving and unsafe lane changes. "If they have poor driving habits, maybe some contact with police can make them better," said Sergeant Holmes. He said the department's focus is to not hand out tickets. Instead, it's to curb bad driving habits, reduce the number of crashes and ultimately save lives. "Not a lot of people are victims of crimes, but most everyone is affected by traffic," said Sergeant Holmes. He said the detail will not reduce the manpower patrolling the streets of Pensacola; the officers who are involved are voluntarily working overtime.

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15. ABC News Nightline	08/27/19	12:03AM/15 minutes	News/Public Affairs	*15

\*15 Nightline examined the issue of vaping, which has been in the news across the country due to a number of deaths and severe illnesses associated with using vaping devices. Proponents say that vaping helps former smokers kick the cigarette habit, but health officials point to the increasing number of lung infections and deaths caused by vaping as a reason to stop using vaping products, especially those with cannabis modules. A few states have now banned the use of vaping products while the health effects can be studied.

16. Channel 3 News at 4PM	09/05/19	04:00PM/2 minutes	News	*16
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\*16 A divisive proposal geared towards West Cervantes Street safety is facing backlash from the community. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) would like to build fence-like barriers on the medians. The barriers would basically force pedestrians to cross only at crosswalks, eliminating the dangers posed when people cross the street wherever they please. This idea is part of the \$7.5 million project dedicated to improving pedestrian safety along the deadly street. John Olson works along West Cervantes Street. He said barriers, like the ones proposed, will be an eyesore in Brownsville, which he says the community is trying to improve. "Just out of place, it won't fit in," Olson said. He thinks more traffic lights and crosswalks would be a better solution. "People will feel trapped more to one side or the other. If they do that, widen the streets more and put in a median. We've never had a wall up between two streets, they put the barriers up on the Interstate for noise restriction. If they put some kind of barrier or fence all up and down it will cause chaos," said Olson. Escambia County Commissioner Doug Underhill also expressed his opinion about the barriers during Thursday's meeting. "Reviewing FDOT's solutions to the unsafe walking conditions in Brownsville, I think they probably solved the problem but created a bigger one," Commissioner Underhill said. Underhill then posed a question: how would you like to see this in your neighborhood? "Any fencing along Cervantes just does not give quality of place. What would people in Perdido say if I said I wanted to put that in their neighborhood? If it wouldn't be good for my neighborhood, it probably wouldn't be good for others. For myself, I'm going to have to publicly say I cannot support where FDOT is going with that project," said Underhill. Mayor Grover Robinson recently spoke about the barriers as well. "We can have free access, but we won't have as much safety. So it's kind of like a tradeoff. Right now, everyone is saying we need safety. Okay, so if we need safety then we may have to give up some of our access," Robinson said. However, he also said he would like to work with FDOT to create more openings in the fenced median, where people had the most objections. He said a similar design has been successful in Tallahassee. County Administrator Janice Gilley said she will have a briefing with FDOT about the project at the end of the month, where she will bring up these concerns. The road improvement project is set to break ground in Fall 2020.

17. The Forgotten Coasts	09/08/19	01:00PM/30 minutes	Public Affairs	*17
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\*17 At the height of the Hurricane Season, WEAR-TV re-aired our special hurricane-preparedness program, featuring last year's hurricanes, specifically Florence and Michael, underscoring the importance of preparations for such storms and the different dangers presented by these two disasters ... flooding by Florence and wind damage by Michael.

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18. ABC News Nightline	09/10/19	12:03AM/15 minutes	News/Public Affairs	*18

\*18 Nightline again examined the issue of vaping, due to the increasing number of deaths and severe illnesses associated with using vaping devices. More states have now banned the use of vaping products while the health effects can be studied.

19. Full Measure with Sharyl Attkisson	09/15/19	09:00AM/10 minutes	Public Affairs	*19
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\*19 We examined a very real problem in rural areas of our country – they’re running out of doctors. We looked at efforts and incentives being made to recruit doctors to serve in rural communities.

20. Channel 3 News at 4PM	09/18/19	04:00PM/1-minute	News	*20
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\*20 Is your child’s car seat installed properly? The Florida Department of Health wants to make sure parents in our area are strapping their children in correctly. As part of National Child Passenger Safety Week, the Florida Department of Health in Santa Rosa County hosted free safety examinations in Milton Wednesday. Inspectors say more than 90 percent of the seats inspected are found to be improperly installed. “When people come in and they get a nationally certified child safety technician to check their car seat, then they can leave knowing that their child is safe; and I’ll tell you, we usually find an average of two to three errors per car seat for most people, which is a little scary,” explained Ginny Hinton with the University of Florida Extension Office. As part of the program, parents could replace an outdated car seat with a new one for just \$10.