

WGSN Quarterly Issues 2021

3rd Quarter

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July 1- Sept. 30, 2021

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Section 1: Issues

- A. Safety: Stories discussing issues of safety affecting local communities.
- B. Health: Discussing local health needs and precautions.
- C. Economy: Local activity and community concerns.
- D. Transportation: Issues dealing with local roads.
- E. Education: Outcomes and changes to local education systems.
- F. Recreation: Opportunities to have fun locally.

Section II: Responsive Programs

- A. WGSN News: “New Program Intended to Curb Violence”** WVLT-TV News is reporting that The City of Knoxville is responding to the killings of several high school students involved in gun violence this year, with a new work program. On Monday, 20 teenagers began their first day of work at Sols Write House Empowerment Center in East Knoxville. **Broadcast:** 7/4/21 **Code:** 9331 **Duration:** 0:49 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 7/15/21.

WGSN News: “Called Meeting About Cocke County Animal Attacks” In a follow-up to an on-going news story, WBIR-TV News reported that on Tuesday members of the Cocke County community gathered in a courtroom to discuss an issue plaguing the area around the intersection of Carnation Way and Jimtown Road — animal attacks. **Broadcast:** 8/4/21 **Code:** 9330 **Duration:** 1:06 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 8/5/21.

WGSN News: “TWRA Urges Safe Boating Over the Holiday” The Labor Day holiday, the final major weekend of the 2021 summer boating season, is Sept. 4-6. The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency wants to emphasize the use of life jackets while boating in a safe and responsible manner. The TWRA wants all those who visit the waterways to have an enjoyable time. However, TWRA officers will be on the watch for dangerous boating behavior...**Broadcast:** 9/3/21 **Code:** 9351 **Duration:** 0:39 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 9/6/21.

- B. WGSN News: “TN Health Dept. Halts Local COVID Outreach to Teens”** As reported by the Knoxville News-Sentinel, following berating of state health officials by state lawmakers for encouraging teenagers to get vaccinated against the coronavirus, the Department of Health instructed county-level employees to end vaccination events focused on adolescents and stop online outreach to teens, according to department emails obtained by The Tennessean. **Broadcast:** 7/12/21 **Code:** 9310 **Duration:** 1:05 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 7/13/21.

WGSN News: “No New Health Regs. From Knox Board” In a follow-up to a previous news story, the Knoxville News-Sentinel reported that Knox County Health Department Director Dr. Martha Buchanan has announced she does not plan to issue any additional safety regulations despite new federal guidance that masks should be worn indoors in communities where COVID-19 is spreading quickly. **Broadcast:** 8/3/21 **Code:** 9332 **Duration:** 0:38 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:06:04 8/4/21.

WGSN News: “Knoxville Co. Taking Part in RSV Research” According to the Knoxville News-Sentinel, a Knoxville clinical trial could lead to the approval of a vaccine decades in the making. Research company AMR Knoxville is taking part in vaccine clinical trials for respiratory syncytial virus, commonly known as RSV, for adults. **Broadcast:** 9/3/21 **Code:** 9350 **Duration:** 1:03 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 9/6/21.

- C. WGSN News: “Smokies Provided \$1.3 Billion in Tourism”** According to WATE-TV News, a new National Park Service report indicated that last year visitors to the Great Smoky Mountains

National Park gave the local economy a boost in excess of \$1.3 billion. The report said there were 12,095,721 visitors to Great Smoky Mountains National Park in 2020.

Broadcast: 7/5/21 **Code:** 9311 **Duration:** 0:52 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 7/6/21.

WGSN News: “Three Injured in Wall Collapse at E TN Attraction” The Knoxville News-Sentinel, reported that three guests were injured last Monday when an iceberg wall collapsed at the Titanic Museum Attraction in Pigeon Forge. **Broadcast:** 8/9/21 **Code:** 9312 **Duration:** 0:52 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 8/10/21.

WGSN News: “Us Antibiotics Announces R&D Upgrade” On Monday Gov. Bill Lee, Department of Economic and Community Development Commissioner Bob Rolfe and Us Antibiotics officials announced that the company will invest \$16 million to establish new manufacturing and research and development operations in Sullivan County -**Broadcast:** 9/1/21 **Code:** 9332 **Duration:** 0:55 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 9/2/21.

- D. **WGSN News: “No Holiday Road Closures Across Tennessee”** Road construction won’t slow motorists across Tennessee over the July 4 holiday. The Tennessee Department of Transportation will suspend all construction-related lane closures on interstates and state routes beginning at 6:00 a.m. on Friday. **Broadcast:** 7/1/21 **Code:** 9341 **Duration:** 0:50 **Airing:** 17:05:04, 7:0504 7/2/21.

WGSN News: “NPS to Resume Work on Newfound Gap Road” As reported by WBIR-TV News, Great Smoky Mountains National Park officials announced that daytime closures in connection with a paving project along an 8-mile section of Newfound Gap Road from Chimneys Picnic Area to Newfound Gap will resume on August 16. **Broadcast:** 8/13/21 **Code:** 9352 **Duration:** 1:06 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 8/16/21.

WGSN News: “No Closures on TN Highways for Labor Day” The Tennessee Department of Transportation will halt all lane closure activity on interstates and state highways for the Labor Day holiday travel period. Construction crews will stop all lane closure activity at noon on Friday, September 3rd, until 6:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 7th. **Broadcast:** 9/2/21 **Code:** 9322 **Duration:** 0:49 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 9/3/21.

- E. **WGSN News: “Sen. Yager Highlights 50th Ann. Of RSCC.”** In a recent editorial, 12th District State Senator highlighted the success of Roane State Community College as it marks its fiftieth anniversary. He wrote: “For fifty years, Roane State Community College has been an economic, cultural and educational leader, partnering with communities, business and government to effect positive changes throughout our region **Broadcast:** 7/8/21 **Code:** 9342 **Duration:** 1:24 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 7/9/21.

WGSN News: “Gov. Lee Announces Spring TCAT Results” On Monday Governor Bill Lee and Education Commissioner Penny Schwinn announced the Spring 2021 Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program state-level results. This is the first set of state-level data related to student academic achievement available since the beginning of the COVID-19 health crisis. Gov. Lee said,

“These results show that COVID-19 has disrupted learning in every school district in Tennessee...” **Broadcast:** 8/3/21 **Code:** 9330 **Duration:** 1:14 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 8/4/21.

WGSN News: “E TN Educator Named Teacher of the Year.” The Tennessee Department of Education announced Morgan Rankin, a second grade teacher at South Side School in Johnson City Schools, was named the 2021-22 Tennessee Teacher of the Year at the Department of Education's annual Excellence in Education celebration Tuesday evening. **Broadcast:** 9/1/21 **Code:** 9331 **Duration:** 1:15 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 9/2/21.

- F. **WGSN News: “TWRA to Conduct Annual Enforcement Event”** The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency will be participating in Operation Dry Water, July 3-5. Operation Dry Water is a weekend of education and enforcement about the dangers of impaired boating throughout. **Broadcast:** 7/1/21 **Code:** 9342 **Duration:** 0:53 **Airing:** 17:06:04, 7:06:04 7/2/21.

WGSN News: “New Kind of Attraction Open in E TN” A new kind of attraction is now open in Sevier County. According to WVLT-TV News, Rowdy Bear Mountain Adventure Park, on the Parkway in Pigeon Forge, has just opened the world's first power coaster. **Broadcast:** 8/4/21 **Code:** 9332 **Duration:** 0:41 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 8/5/21.

WGSN News: “NPS Announces Winners of Big South Fork Photo Contest” The National Park Service has announced the winners of the annual Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area photo contest. **Broadcast:** 9/9/21 **Code:** 9342 **Duration:** 0:40 **Airing:** 17:04:04, 7:04:04 9/10/21.