



**WSOC-TV**  
**(WSOC Television, LLC., Charlotte, NC)**

**QUARTERLY PROBLEMS/NEEDS**  
**PROGRAM REPORT**

**October 1- December 31, 2020**

## **TELEMUNDO CHARLOTTE**

WSOC-TV is proud to carry Telemundo programming on digital subchannel 9.2 of WSOC-TV. Telemundo's programming includes several national news programs that are of interest to WSOC viewers. Further information on those programs can be found in program guides.

**WSOC-TV/WAXN-TV**  
**SPECIAL SEGMENTS OF NEWSCASTS**  
**October-December 2020**

**CONSUMER NEWS: 5:30P NEWS** Four days per week, 2:00 in length. Consumer reporter acts as an advocate for consumers who are not getting satisfaction from businesses or government. Tries to help them solve their own problems or encourage the two parties to work out a solution.

**FAMILY FOCUS:** One report, two minutes in length, and each week focusing on family and children issues. Reports are part of WSOC-TV's station community campaign: Family Focus, which includes PSA's, events, programs, community projects. Also repeats on Saturday mornings.

**TRAFFIC REPORTS:** Nine times daily during **EYEWITNESS NEWS DAYBREAK** and once each during 7:25 AM and 8:25 AM breaks. Includes alternate route information. Also, half hour in midday if there is breaking traffic news. Traffic Reports air every 9 mins from 7a-9a on TV64.

**CLARK HOWARD REPORT** – Each Saturday morning a segment is aired and sometimes at noon on the weekends.

**While this list contains a brief description of WSOC-TV's and WAXN-TV's most significant and frequently covered programs and program segments, it doesn't include all programs and program segments broadcast during the Fourth Quarter, 2020. More information about the station's programming is available by contacting the station directly.**

## **WSOC-TV/WAXN-TV NON-BROADCAST COMMUNITY EFFORTS**

9 FAMILY FOCUS: Covering Communities in the Carolinas. For over 25 years, 9 Family Focus, a Channel 9 project has been serving the community through special programs, projects and events. Detailed information on 9 Family Focus is located on our website, [www.wsoc.com](http://www.wsoc.com) - link to <http://www.wsoc.com/community/family-focus/>

REAL-TIME CLOSED CAPTIONING: Is available for all Channel 9 Eyewitness News programs seven days a week.

NEWS ANCHORS/WSOC-TV STAFF regularly visit organizations and schools in the Channel 9 viewing area to include (see attached list)



# **WSOC-TV SPEAKERS BUREAU REPORT**

**WSOC-TV NEWS ANCHORS & STAFF VISITING SCHOOLS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

**October 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name of WSOC Employee</b>	<b>School/Organization</b>	<b>Event</b>
12/18/20	Monday	Fort Mill Elementary (Virtual Visit)	WX Talk

**TELEVISION STATION WSOC-TV CHARLOTTE  
QUARTERLY LISTING OF LOCAL PROGRAMS REFLECTING  
CONCERNS AND NEEDS FACING THE COMMUNITY**

**FOURTH QUARTER 2020  
OCTOBER 1, 2020 – DECEMBER 31, 2020**

PROGRAMS LISTED BELOW ARE PUBLIC AFFAIRS UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED AND ARE LOCALLY PRODUCED. WE ALSO CARRY ABC NETWORK AND SYNDICATED PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMS.

Mini-Series Documentaries are produced by **WSOC-TV** News Department and appear within the newscasts as a public service to the community. The News mini-series are aired one to four times daily.

**Monday-Friday:**      **Eyewitness News 4:30am-7am; 12-1pm; 5-6:30pm; 11-11:35pm**  
**Saturdays:**        **Eyewitness News 5am-8am; 12-1pm; 6-6:30pm; and 11-11:35pm**  
**Sundays:**            **Eyewitness News 5am-8am; 11am-1pm; 6-6:30pm; and 11-11:35pm**

*Unless otherwise noted in the report, all segments listed in the report are :05-:90 in duration.*

While this list contains a brief description of WSOC-TV's most significant and frequently covered programs and program segments, it doesn't include all programs and program segments broadcast during the Fourth Quarter, 2020:

- GOVERNMENT
- CRIME
- ECONOMY
- EDUCATION
- HEALTH

**OCTOBER 5, 2020 4:30AM****CHARLOTTE CITY COUNCIL TO WORK ON STRATEGY SESSION**

IN JUST A FEW HOURS, CHARLOTTE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL GET TO WORK ON A STRATEGY SESSION. THEY'RE TACKLING THE BUDGET, HOW TO SPEND THE REST OF THE CARES ACT FUNDING AND WAYS TO KEEP CHARLOTTE SAFE. THE SAFE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE IS EXPECTED TO PROVIDE COUNCIL WITH RECOMMENDATIONS. WE'VE BEEN FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE'S WORK ALL YEAR. IT'S MADE UP OF CITY LEADERS, COMMUNITY LEADERS, AND RESIDENTS INCLUDING ACTIVISTS. THEY'VE BEEN COMING UP WITH SOLUTIONS TO THE CITY'S VIOLENCE, INCLUDING THE VIOLENCE INTERRUPTOR PROGRAM. MORE RECENTLY THEY'VE LOOKED AT POLICING IN CHARLOTTE AND DISCUSSED EXPANDING RESOURCES FOR MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCIES, AN EXTERNAL AUDIT OF CMPD'S BUDGET, AND ASSESSING CMPD'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS. JUST LAST WEEK, CMPD CHIEF JOHNNY JENNINGS ANNOUNCED THE DEPARTMENT WILL NO LONGER USE CHEMICAL AGENTS OR 'NO-KNOCK' WARRANTS. THE USE OF TEAR GAS BECAME CONTROVERSIAL THIS SUMMER WHEN IT WAS USED DURING PROTESTS IN UPTOWN AND IN ONE INCIDENT WHERE PROTESTERS WERE CORNERED.

**OCTOBER 10, 2020 NOON****CHARLOTTE OFFERS MUSIC VENUES GRANT FOR RECOVERY**

THERE COULD BE RELIEF FOR CHARLOTTE'S MUSIC VENUE'S HIT HARD BY CROWD RESTRICTIONS DURING THE PANDEMIC. THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE IS OFFERING GRANTS TO HELP THEM MAKE THEIR RENT. TO BE ELIGIBLE THE VENUE HAS TO BE IN CITY LIMITS, CURRENTLY CLOSED UNDER THE GOVENOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER AND NOT GOING THROUGH BANKRUPTCY. IF THE CITY DEEMS THE BUSINESS ELIGIBLE, THEY CAN GET A 9-MONTH SUBSIDY TO HELP COVER THEIR MORTGAGE OR RENT.

**OCTOBER 14, 2020 5:00PM****FEDERAL FUNDS COMING FOR BESSEMER CITY PARK**

TRAILS, PLAYGROUNDS AND SPORTS FIELDS ARE A BIG BLESSING FOR OUR COMMUNITY. THE USDA JUST GAVE \$1.9 MILLION TO BUILD STINGER PARK IN BESSEMER CITY. IT'LL COVER 40 ACRES BEHIND BESSEMER CITY PRIMARY SCHOOL. THE USDA SAYS ITS BEEN WORKING WITH RURAL PARTS OF THE STATE TO BUILD STRONGER AND HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES.

**OCTOBER 26, 2020 6:00AM**

## **EARLY VOTING HITS RECORD LEVELS**

THE ELECTION IS STILL 8 DAYS AWAY BUT IT'S ALREADY BREAKING RECORDS. NATIONWIDE, MORE PEOPLE HAVE CAST THEIR BALLOTS EARLY THAN IN ALL OF 2016. MORE THAN 58.7 MILLION AMERICANS HAVE ALREADY VOTED... COMPARED TO 58.3 MILLION IN 2016. HERE IN NORTH CAROLINA MORE THAN 3 MILLION PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY VOTED. IN MECKLENBURG MORE THAN 340,000 PEOPLE CAST THEIR BALLOTS.

**NOVEMBER 2, 2020 NOON**

## **STATESVILLE LEADERS TO DISCUSS OLD VANCE HOTEL PROPERTY**

TONIGHT, THE STATESVILLE CITY COUNCIL WILL MEET TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THE OLD VANCE HOTEL PROPERTY. IT'S AN ISSUE CHANNEL NINE HAS FOLLOWED FOR YEARS. THE CITY BOUGHT THE BUILDING IN 2012 FOR \$475,000. IT ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO RENOVATE THE HOTEL AND TURN IT INTO APARTMENTS, BUT THE DEVELOPER BACKED OUT BECAUSE THE PROJECT WAS TOO EXPENSIVE. OUR PARTNERS AT THE RECORD AND LANDMARK REPORT COUNCIL IS EXPECTED TO SIGN A LETTER OF INTENT WITH ANOTHER DEVELOPER AND BUILD A PARKING DECK ON THE PROPERTY.

**NOVEMBER 9, 2020 11:00PM**

## **LEADERS APPROVE CHANGES TO EASTLAND MALL SITE**

CHARLOTTE CITY COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED A PLAN TO TRANSFORM THE OLD EASTLAND MALL SITE. IT'S SAT EMPTY FOR A DECADE. THE AREA WILL BE TURNED INTO THE HOME OF CHARLOTTE FOOTBALL CLUB'S ELITE ACADEMY. THAT'S THE TRAINING ACADEMY FOR THE MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER TEAM. THAT AREA WOULD ALSO INCLUDE A PARK, APARTMENTS AND A GROCERY STORE.

**NOVEMBER 10, 2020 5:00PM**

## **UPTOWN ROAD REOPENS FOLLOWING CITY COUNCIL VOTE**

SOUTH TRYON STREET IS BACK OPEN IN UPTOWN CHARLOTTE, MONTHS AFTER THE CITY SHUT IT DOWN FOR THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MURAL. CHOPPER NINE FLEW OVER THE STREET TODAY AS TRAFFIC WAS FLOWING OVER THE MURAL NEAR FOURTH STREET. LAST NIGHT, CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTED 10-1 TO REOPEN THE STRETCH.

**NOVEMBER 17, 2020 6:00AM**

## **HUNTERSVILLE LEADERS HEAR UPDATE ON MASSIVE GAS LEAK**

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN A MASSIVE GAS LEAK IN HUNTERSVILLE...OFFICIALS WITH COLONIAL PIPELINE SAY THEY HAVEN'T FOUND ANY EVIDENCE OF CONTAMINATION IN WELL WATER. OFFICIALS UPDATED TOWN LEADERS ON THE CLEANUP PROGRESS DURING THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING LAST NIGHT. IN AUGUST, MORE THAN 267,000 GALLONS OF GAS SPILLED NEAR HUNTERSVILLE-CONCORD ROAD. THE COMPANY'S VP OF OPERATIONS SAID THEY HAVE REMOVED THE SECTION OF PIPE THAT RUPTURED AND ARE WORKING TO DETERMINE WHAT CAUSED IT. THE COMPANY DIDN'T PROVIDE A NEW ESTIMATE ON HOW MUCH SPILLED, BUT SAYS IT HAS BROUGHT IN A THIRD PARTY TO HELP WITH THOSE CALCULATIONS. COLONIAL IS REQUIRED TO GIVE THE STATE AN UPDATED REPORT IN JANUARY.

**DECEMBER 1, 2020 6:00PM**

## **CHARLOTTE CITY LEADERS RESPOND TO "TENT CITY" LAWSUIT**

A LAWSUIT COMPARED CHARLOTTE'S HOMELESS SITUATION TO A REFUGEE CAMP. NOW THE CITY IS RESPONDING. LAST NIGHT, WE TOLD YOU THE FAMILY THAT OWNS A PIECE OF LAND NEAR UPTOWN IS SUING THE CITY AND COUNTY. DURING THE PANDEMIC, THE SO-CALLED "TENT CITY" SURROUNDING THE LAND HAS GOTTEN MUCH BIGGER. THE FAMILY SAYS THEY CAN'T SELL THE PROPERTY BECAUSE OF THE CONDITIONS AROUND IT. THEY WANT THE CITY AND COUNTY TO EITHER BUY THE PROPERTY OR ADDRESS THE HOMELESS ISSUE. TODAY, THE CITY SAID IN PART IT IS "ACTIVELY SEEKING ASSISTANCE FROM OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND THE PARTIES TO THIS LITIGATION TO IDENTIFY POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS TO THIS ISSUE."

**DECEMBER 3, 2020 6:00AM**

## **CHARLOTTE LEADERS TO FINALIZE PLANS FOR LIGHT RAIL EXPANSION**

TODAY, THE "CHARLOTTE MOVES" TASK FORCE WILL FINALIZE A PLAN TO PAY FOR THE LIGHT RAIL EXPANSION FROM THE AIRPORT TO MATTHEWS. THE CITY'S SHARE OF THE EXPANSION COULD COST UP TO \$6 BILLION. WE TOLD YOU LAST MONTH THE TASK FORCE IS RECOMMENDING TWO DIFFERENT TAX INCREASES. THOSE WOULD INCLUDE UP TO A PENNY SALES TAX INCREASE AND A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE. LATER THIS MONTH, THE TASK FORCE WILL PRESENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CITY COUNCIL. THE STATE WOULD HAVE TO APPROVE A SALES TAX INCREASE AND IF ALL WENT ACCORDING TO PLAN, IT COULD BE PUT ON THE BALLOT FOR VOTERS TO DECIDE IN 2021.

**DECEMBER 14, 2020 6:00AM**

## **CHARLOTTE LEADERS TO VOTE ON BIKE TRACK CONTRACT**

TONIGHT, CHARLOTTE CITY COUNCIL WILL VOTE ON A \$4 MILLION CONTRACT TO BUILD A DEDICATED TRACK FOR CYCLISTS IN UPTOWN. THE PROJECT INCLUDES A TWO-WAY SEPARATED CYCLE TRACK ALONG 5TH AND 6TH STREETS BETWEEN MCDOWELL AND THE RAIL TRAIL. THE PROJECT WOULD CONNECT MORE THAN 40 MILES OF BIKEWAYS.

**DECEMBER 16, 2020 6:00AM**

## **COUNTY LEADERS DON'T SUPPORT PLAN FOR SALES TAX HIKE**

MECKLENBURG COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ARE NOT ALL ON BOARD A PROPOSAL TO RAISE SALES TAX IN CHARLOTTE BY A PENNY-- TO PAY FOR A LIGHT RAIL EXPANSION FROM THE AIRPORT TO MATTHEWS. THE LEADERS OF THE "CHARLOTTE MOVES" TASK FORCE PRESENTED THE SAME PLAN TO THE COUNTY LAST NIGHT THAT THEY SHOWED CITY COUNCIL MONDAY NIGHT. THE STATE LEGISLATURE WOULD HAVE TO APPROVE A SALES TAX INCREASE, THEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WOULD HAVE TO VOTE TO PUT IT TO A REFERENDUM. WHILE THERE WAS SOME SUPPORT TO LET VOTERS HAVE THEIR SAY, OTHERS SAID THE TIMING ISN'T RIGHT. CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSAL NEXT MONTH. IF THE STATE APPROVES AND THE COUNTY AGREES TO PUT IT TO REFERENDUM, VOTERS WOULD LIKELY HAVE THEIR SAY NEXT NOVEMBER.

**OCTOBER 2, 2020 11:00PM**

## **1 ARRESTED IN SHOOTING OF 10-YEAR-OLD GIRL**

A 10-YEAR-OLD GIRL WAS SHOT IN HUNTERSVILLE. NOW ONE MAN IS IN CUSTODY AND POLICE ARE SEARCHING FOR A SECOND SUSPECT. INVESTIGATORS ARRESTED DEMINIQUE WATTERS AND THEY'RE LOOKING FOR ANTONIO WEEKS. THEY SAY THE TWO SHOT INTO TWO STORAGE AREAS, TWO VEHICLES AND TWO APARTMENTS ON PINNACLE CROSS DRIVE. ONE OF THOSE BULLETS HIT THE GIRL. POLICE SAY HER INJURIES ARE MINOR.

**OCTOBER 5, 2020 11:00PM**

## **1 SHOT AT UNC CHARLOTTE STUDENT HOUSING CENTER**

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING A SHOOTING AT A UNC CHARLOTTE STUDENT HOUSING CENTER IN NORTHEAST CHARLOTTE. IT HAPPENED AT ARCADIA STUDENT LIVING ON FALLING WATERS COURT NEAR NORTH TRYON STREET. INVESTIGATORS TELL US ONE PERSON WAS SHOT AND HAS LIFE-THREATENING INJURIES. WE'RE ASKING WHAT LED UP TO THE SHOOTING AND IF ANY ARRESTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

**OCTOBER 9, 2020 6:00AM**

## **POLICE INVESTIGATE HOMICIDE IN EAST CHARLOTTE**

WE'RE FOLLOWING BREAKING NEWS IN WEST CHARLOTTE... POLICE ARE ON THE SCENE OF A HOMICIDE AT ROZZELLES FERRY ROAD AND HONEYWOOD AVENUE. THIS IS NEAR I-85. HERE'S A LOOK AT THE SCENE AROUND 4 A.M. THE FIRST OFFICERS ARRIVED AROUND 3:40 THIS MORNING. POLICE SAY THAT'S WHEN THEY FOUND A PERSON SHOT IN THE ROAD. THAT PERSON DIED AT THE SCENE. WE'RE ASKING POLICE MORE ABOUT THE VICTIM, ANY POSSIBLE SUSPECTS AND WHAT LED UP TO THE SHOOTING.

**OCTOBER 19, 2020 6:00AM**

## **POLICE ARREST SUSPECT IN UPTOWN HOMICIDE**

WE HAVE AN IMPORTANT UPDATE TO BREAKING NEWS WE FIRST BROUGHT YOU FRIDAY MORNING RIGHT HERE ON CHANNEL NINE. THE MAN ARRESTED IN CONNECTION TO THE DEADLY SHOOTING IN UPTOWN CHARLOTTE WILL FACE A JUDGE THIS AFTERNOON. XAVIER HOUGH IS CHARGED WITH MURDER AFTER A SHOOTING ALONG NORTH COLLEGE AND 12TH STREETS. POLICE STILL HAVEN'T IDENTIFIED THE VICTIM IN THIS CASE.

**NOVEMBER 1, 2020 11:00PM**

## **YORK CO. HOMICIDE SUSPECT FOUND IN GASTONIA**

POLICE HAVE CAUGHT A YORK COUNTY MURDER SUSPECT THEY SAY WAS ON THE RUN FOR DAYS. THEY ARRESTED KEVIN GIL AT A HOTEL IN GASTONIA EARLY THIS MORNING. TUESDAY, YORK COUNTY DEPUTIES SAY HE KILLED SOMEONE ON BOWLING GREEN DRIVE NEAR CLOVER. DEPUTIES HAVEN'T SHARED ANY OTHER DETAILS ABOUT THE MURDER. GIL WILL STAY BEHIND BARS IN GASTONIA UNTIL HE'S EXTRADITED TO YORK COUNTY.

**NOVEMBER 4, 2020 6:00PM**

## **POLICE SEARCH FOR ARMED MAN WHO WOULDN'T LEAVE POLL SITE**

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG POLICE ARE LOOKING FOR A MAN THEY SAY TWICE WENT TO A POLLING PLACE WITH A GUN THEN REFUSED TO LEAVE. POLICE SAY JUSTIN DUNN BROUGHT THE GUN TO VOTE AT A UNIVERSITY CITY POLLING PLACE, BUT ONCE HE VOTED HE WOULDN'T LEAVE. THATS WHEN POLICE ARRIVED AND ARRESTED HIM. HE WAS ONLY CHARGED WITH TRESPASSING. BUT POLICE SAY ONCE HE POSTED BOND AND GOT OUT OF JAIL, HE WENT BACK TO THE POLLING SITE AGAIN. HE LEFT BEFORE OFFICERS ARRIVED. THEY ARE STILL SEARCHING FOR HIM BUT HAVE CHARGED HIM WITH A SECOND COUNT OF TRESPASSING. OFFICERS ARE WORKING TO SEE IF ANY OTHER LAWS WERE BROKEN.

**NOVEMBER 7, 2020 11:00PM**

## **POLICE INVESTIGATE HOMICIDE IN NORTHEAST CHARLOTTE**

BREAKING TONIGHT, POLICE ARE ON SCENE OF A HOMICIDE IN NORTHEAST CHARLOTTE. IT'S ON NORTH TRYON STREET NEAR ORCHARD TRACE LANE AND THE I-85 CONNECTOR. ALL WE KNOW RIGHT NOW IS THAT SOMEONE WAS SHOT THERE AROUND 8 PM. WE'RE WORKING TO GET MORE INFORMATION FROM POLICE, AND AS SOON AS WE DO, WE'LL UPDATE THIS STORY ON OUR APP.

**NOVEMBER 18, 2020 5:00PM**

## **POLICE SEARCH FOR MEN USING COUNTERFEIT CASH**

THE HUNTERSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEEDS YOUR HELP TO IDENTIFY THREE MEN THEY BELIEVE USED COUNTERFEIT CASH. INVESTIGATORS SAY THEY USED COUNTERFEIT MONEY AT SEVERAL LOCAL BUSINESSES IN THE AREA. SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS FROM ONE OF THE STORES CAUGHT THE MEN ON VIDEO. POLICE ARE OFFERING A REWARD TO ANYONE WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEN.

**DECEMBER 3, 2020 5:00PM**

## **CHARLOTTE CHASE LEADS TO HOMICIDE ARRESTS**

POLICE SAY THEY ARRESTED THREE MURDER SUSPECTS AFTER A CHASE IN NORTHWEST CHARLOTTE. THREE 18-YEAR-OLDS ARE CHARGED WITH SHOOTING AND KILLING RICARDO PEREZ MONDAY ON ELECTRA LANE. OFFICERS SAY THEY SPOTTED THE CAR CONNECTED TO THE MURDER YESTERDAY. WHEN THEY TRIED TO PULL THE DRIVER OVER, THEY SAY HE KEPT GOING. THEY CHASED THE DRIVER TO HOVIS ROAD. THAT'S WHERE THEY ARRESTED AZAEVON SINGLETON. OFFICERS THEN ARRESTED TWO OTHER TEENS -- KEON MCMILLAN AND SEDRICK SANDERS - AT A HOME ON PALM BREEZE LANE, ABOUT A MILE AWAY.

**DECEMBER 10, 2020 6:00PM**

## **MORNING HOMICIDE BRINGS CHARLOTTE TO 110 MURDERS**

110 MURDERS THIS YEAR... THAT'S THE MOST WE'VE SEEN IN A SINGLE YEAR IN CHARLOTTE IN MORE THAN 2 DECADES. THE LATEST HAPPENED AROUND ONE THIS MORNING AT THE HUNTERS POINTE COMPLEX ON PROSPECT DRIVE IN NORTH CHARLOTTE. POLICE TELL US JOSHUA SEALY WAS SHOT TO DEATH. A SECOND PERSON SHOWED UP AT THE HOSPITAL SHORTLY AFTER. WE DON'T KNOW WHO THAT PERSON IS YET OR WHAT LED TO THE SHOOTING.

**DECEMBER 16, 2020 6:00AM**

## **CHARLOTTE LEADERS TO HIRE ANTI-CRIME SPECIALISTS**

LAST NIGHT, CHARLOTTE CITY COUNCIL MET TO DISCUSS HOW TO STOP THE CITY'S CRIME PROBLEM. EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE CITY IDENTIFIED FOUR HOTSPOTS AND DEVELOPED A PLAN TO HELP LOWER CRIME. LAST NIGHT, THEY FOCUSED ON THE BEATTIES FORD AND LASALLE AREA. THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE SAYS IT'S A PRIME AREA TO PUT THEIR 'VIOLENCE INTERRUPTION PROGRAM' IN PLACE. THE GOAL IS TO HIRE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THAT COMMUNITY TO BE VIOLENCE OUTREACH SPECIALISTS. THE CITY IS WORKING WITH 'CURE VIOLENCE' TO HIRE PEOPLE WITH INFLUENCE IN THE BEATTIES FORD CORRIDOR WHO ARE ABLE TO SERVE AS CHANGE AGENTS AND CONNECT FOLKS WITH RESOURCES. THE GOAL IS TO PUT THIS PROGRAM IN PLACE IN THE SPRING AND SEE A MAJOR REDUCTION IN VIOLENT CRIME WITHIN A YEAR.

**DECEMBER 22, 2020 5:00PM**

## **MAN KILLED IN EAST CHARLOTTE SHOOTING**

POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING A SHOOTING IN EAST CHARLOTTE THAT LEFT ONE PERSON DEAD. POLICE SAY THEY FOUND ALEJANDRO ARREOLA AT THE SCENE ON FARM POND LANE AROUND 9:30 LAST NIGHT WITH A GUNSHOT WOUND. AN AMBULANCE TOOK HIM TO THE HOSPITAL WHERE HE LATER DIED. POLICE ARE NOW SEARCHING FOR A SUSPECT.

**OCTOBER 8, 2020 6:00PM**

## **BANK OF AMERICA TO OFFER SHORT-TERM LOANS**

BANK OF AMERICA IS GOING TO OFFER SMALL SHORT-TERM LOANS. STARTING NEXT YEAR, YOU CAN BORROW UP TO \$500 FOR A \$5 FLAT FEE. YOU'D HAVE TO PAY BACK THE AMOUNT OVER THREE MONTHS. THESE ARE DIFFERENT THAN PAYDAY LOANS, WHICH ARE ILLEGAL IN NORTH CAROLINA. THOSE USUALLY HAVE VERY HIGH INTEREST RATES. THE RATE FOR BANK OF AMERICA'S LOANS WILL BE BETWEEN 5.99% AND 29.76%.

**OCTOBER 11, 2020 11:00PM**

## **PANDEMIC CREATES BIG BUMP IN ONLINE SHOPPING**

SOCIAL DISTANCING AND STAY AT HOME ORDERS HAVE NORTH CAROLINIANS SHOPPING ONLINE EVEN MORE. A RESEARCH FIRM HAS ESTIMATED THAT ONLINE SALES WOULD INCREASE TO \$710 BILLION THIS YEAR. RETAILERS WITH A LARGE ONLINE PRESENCE, LIKE AMAZON, ARE THRIVING, WHILE OTHERS THAT RELY HEAVILY ON MALL SALES ARE FACING EXTINCTION. EXPERTS SAY IT'S LIKELY CUSTOMERS WILL STICK TO THEIR NEW SHOPPING.

**OCTOBER 19, 2020 6:00AM**

## **SOUTH CAROLINA TO OFFER SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF GRANTS**

TODAY, SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR HENRY MCMASTER WILL LAUNCH THE MINORITY AND SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF GRANT PROGRAM TO HELP THOSE AFFECTED BY THE PANDEMIC. THE PROGRAM WILL GIVE QUALIFYING SMALL BUSINESSES \$2,500 TO \$25,000. BUSINESSES HAVE TO HAVE 25 OR FEWER EMPLOYEES. A SIMILAR PROGRAM WILL ALSO BE ESTABLISHED FOR NON-PROFITS.

**OCTOBER 21, 2020 NOON**

## **SOME FARMERS SUFFERING DURING PANDEMIC**

WHEN THE PANDEMIC HIT, FARMERS WERE SOME OF THE FIRST TO FEEL THE IMMEDIATE IMPACT. THEY'RE NOW CALLING ON THE U.S.D.A. TO HELP BAIL THEM OUT. FARMERS FROM HENDERSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA SHARED THEIR CONCERNS WITH THE AGENCY'S UNDERSECRETARY YESTEDAY. BLACKBERRY FARMER, DALTON RHODES, ESTIMATES HE'S LOST \$50,000 TO \$100,000 IN CROPS. A COUPLE OF HIS PICKERS TESTED POSITIVE. THAT MEANT DOZENS OF OTHERS COULDN'T COME TO WORK AND CROPS SUFFERED. SOD FARMERS HAVE ALSO HAD IT ROUGH. ON THE FLIP SIDE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH CAROLINA CHRISTMAS TREE ASSOCIATION SAYS THEY'VE HAD A FANTASTIC GROWING SEASON AND THEY HOPE THAT BRINGS SOME FAMILIES CHEER DURING THE UNUSUAL TIMES.

**NOVEMBER 5, 2020 NOON**

## **CHARLOTTE MOTHER SUES OVER GRANT FOR PARENTS**

IT'S THE "EXTRA CREDIT" GRANT ACTION 9 INVESTIGATOR JASON STOOGENKE HAS BEEN TELLING YOU ABOUT. IT HELPS PARENTS PAY FOR THEIR KIDS' REMOTE LEARNING OR DAYCARE. BUT A CHARLOTTE MOTHER IS SUING THE STATE OVER THAT GRANT. SHE SAYS SHE'S A SINGLE MOTHER OF FOUR, WORKS AT MCDONALD'S, EARNS LESS THAN \$10 PER HOUR AND LIVES IN A HOTEL. THE LAWSUIT SAYS SHE COULD HAVE USED THE EXTRA MONEY BUT WON'T GET IT. IF YOU FILED TAXES FOR LAST YEAR, THE STATE IS SENDING YOU THE MONEY AUTOMATICALLY NEXT MONTH. IF YOU DIDN'T EARN ENOUGH MONEY AND DIDN'T HAVE TO FILE TAXES LAST YEAR, YOU HAD TO APPLY FOR THE GRANT. THAT INCLUDES THE MOTHER IN THE LAWSUIT. THE SUIT SAYS ONLY 15,000 LOW-INCOME FAMILIES APPLIED AND AROUND 200,000 WERE LEFT OUT. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE REPRESENTS THE STATE IN LAWSUITS BUT WON'T COMMENT ON AN ONGOING CASE.

**NOVEMBER 13, 2020 6:00AM**

## **ECONOMISTS FLOAT IDEA OF "WORK FROM HOME TAX"**

ECONOMISTS HAVE AN INTERESTING QUESTION... IF YOU WORK FROM HOME, WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO PAY A TAX OF TEN DOLLARS A DAY? RIGHT OFF THE BAT, NOT MANY PEOPLE IN THE CHARLOTTE AREA ARE GOING TO LIKE THAT IDEA. BUT WHAT IF WE TOLD YOU THE MONEY WOULD HELP OTHERS STRUGGLING DURING THE PANDEMIC? DON'T WORRY, THIS ISN'T A REAL THING YET, JUST AN IDEA FROM ECONOMISTS AT DEUTSCHE BANK. THEY SAY IF YOU'RE WORKING FROM HOME, YOU'RE NOT BUYING GAS, PAYING A SALES TAX ON COFFEE... BASIC EVERYDAY THINGS THAT KEEP THE ECONOMY STRONG. THEY SUGGEST \$10 EACH DAY PEOPLE WORK COULD RAISE ABOUT \$48 BILLION A YEAR. THEN IT COULD GO INTO A FUND FOR \$1,500 GRANTS FOR PEOPLE WHO CAN'T WORK FROM HOME AND MAKE LESS THAN \$30,000.

**NOVEMBER 17, 2020 6:00AM**

## **DEADLINE IS SATURDAY TO APPLY FOR FIRST STIMULUS CHECK**

NORTH CAROLINIANS ONLY HAVE UNTIL SATURDAY TO APPLY FOR A STIMULUS CHECK FROM THE FIRST ROUND - IF YOU DIDN'T GET ONE ALREADY. THIS IS SPECIFICALLY FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO DIDN'T HAVE TO FILE TAXES LAST YEAR. THE IRS SAYS YOU'RE STILL ENTITLED TO THE MONEY, BUT YOU HAVE TO APPLY FOR IT. AT FIRST, YOU HAD TO DO THAT BY OCTOBER 15TH. THEN THE IRS EXTENDED THE DEADLINE. SO NOW YOU HAVE UNTIL SATURDAY. GO ONLINE TO IRS.GOV, CLICK ON THE "NON-FILER" TOOL, AND PUT IN YOUR INFORMATION. YOU SHOULD GET YOUR STIMULUS CHECK BY THE END OF THE YEAR. IF YOU WAIT UNTIL AFTER SATURDAY YOU MAY HAVE TO FILE A TAX RETURN FOR THIS YEAR, WHICH MEANS WAITING UNTIL NEXT YEAR TO GET THE MONEY.

**NOVEMBER 20, 2020 5:00AM**

## **SOME RENTERS WHO QUALIFY FOR RENT HELP STILL CAN'T PAY**

HERE'S A SITUATION SO MANY IN THE CHARLOTTE AREA ARE STRUGGLING WITH. WE'VE GOTTEN SO MANY FACEBOOK COMMENTS, EMAILS AND CALLS FROM PEOPLE NOT ABLE TO PAY RENT. THERE ARE SOME PROTECTIONS BUT PEOPLE ARE NOW FINDING OUT EVEN IF THEY QUALIFY FOR THE 'NC HOPE PROGRAM' THAT HELPS PAY THEIR RENT, THEIR LANDLORDS WON'T TAKE THE MONEY. KURT BRADLEY LIVES IN HUNTERSVILLE. HE APPLIED FOR 'HOPE' MONEY. IT PAYS PEOPLE'S RENT UP TO SIX MONTHS. HE TOLD ACTION 9'S JASON STOOGENKE HE QUALIFIED. BUT HIS LANDLORD WON'T TAKE THE MONEY BECAUSE OF THE RULES ATTACHED -- AND THEY DON'T HAVE TO. HERE'S THE FINE PRINT: LANDLORDS WHO TAKE 'HOPE MONEY' CAN'T RAISE RENT FOR THE REST OF THE RENTER'S LEASE, CHARGE THE RENTER NEW FEES OR PENALTIES OR EVICT THE RENTER FOR NOT PAYING RENT FOR THE REST OF THE LEASE -- OR 90 DAYS AFTER THE 'HOPE' MONEY ENDS -- WHICHEVER IS LONGER. OFFICIALS FROM THE STATE AGENCY RUNNING THE "NC HOPE" PROGRAM, TOLD JASON THEY ARE WORKING WITH LANDLORDS.

**DECEMBER 2, 2020 5:00PM**

## **EXPERTS FORECAST CHARLOTTE HOUSING MARKET SURGE**

CHARLOTTE'S HOUSING MARKET HAS BEEN STRONG THIS YEAR, AND IT'S EXPECTED TO SURGE EVEN MORE NEXT YEAR. REALTOR-DOT-COM IS PROJECTING A NEARLY 14% JUMP IN SALES. THAT'S THE THIRD-HIGHEST RATE OF ANY CITY, AND NEARLY TWICE THE NATIONAL RATE. ONE ANALYST TOLD OUR PARTNERS AT THE CHARLOTTE BUSINESS JOURNAL CHARLOTTE'S AFFORDABILITY COMPARED TO OTHER BIG CITIES IS ATTRACTIVE TO BUYERS.

**DECEMBER 9, 2020 NOON**

## **COMPANY BRINGING HQ, JOBS TO CHARLOTTE**

A LONDON-BASED COMPANY IS SETTING UP ITS NORTH AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS HERE IN CHARLOTTE. "ARRIVAL" IS AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE COMPANY. THE \$3 MILLION INVESTMENT TO BUILD A HQ WILL CREATE 150 NEW JOBS IN SOUTH END. MAYOR VI LYLES SAYS SHE'S THRILLED TO WELCOME ARRIVAL BECAUSE ITS FOCUS ON EFFICIENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY ALIGNS WITH CHARLOTTE'S GOALS.

**DECEMBER 11, 2020 6:00AM**

## **SOME SOUTH CAROLINA FATHERS TO GET \$500 A MONTH**

NOW TO A STORY THAT HAS MANY OF YOU CLICKING AND COMMENTING ON OUR WEB SITE AND FACEBOOK PAGES. A GROUP OF DADS LIVING IN COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA WILL SOON START RECEIVING \$500 PAYMENTS EVERY MONTH FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS. COLUMBIA IS PART OF SOMETHING CALLED THE "MAYORS FOR A GUARANTEED INCOME PROGRAM." IT HELPS FAMILIES PULL TOGETHER A BASIC MONTHLY INCOME. NEARLY TWO DOZEN OTHER CITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY ARE DOING THIS. THIS WEEK, COLUMBIA RECEIVED A \$600,000 DONATION TO ITS PROGRAM FROM TWITTER CEO JACK DORSEY. MAYOR STEVE BENJAMIN SAID THAT MONEY ALLOWED THEM TO AWARD LOCAL FATHERS WITH THOSE MONTHLY \$500 PAYMENTS. NOT EVERY FATHER IN COLUMBIA WILL GET THAT STIPEND. THEY WILL BE HAND-SELECTED. THEY'LL GET A DEBIT CARD THAT'S LOADED EVERY MONTH. THAT WAY THE CITY CAN TRACK HOW THE MONEY IS BEING USED. MAYOR BENJAMIN SAYS THESE PAYMENTS ARE MEANT TO HELP THE MEN REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.

**DECEMBER 20, 2020 11:00PM**

## **DEAL REACHED TO SEND STIMULUS CHECKS TO CAROLINAS**

CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP FINALLY STRUCK A DEAL TONIGHT ON A NEW STIMULUS PLAN, AFTER MORE THAN SIX MONTHS OF FAILED NEGOTIATIONS. THE ROUGHLY \$900 BILLION AID PACKAGE INCLUDES CRITICAL AID FOR EVERYONE, INCLUDING HERE IN CHARLOTTE AND ACROSS THE CAROLINAS. THERE WILL BE \$600 STIMULUS PAYMENTS FOR EACH PERSON IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD, REGARDLESS OF THEIR AGE, \$300 IN WEEKLY FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND \$300 BILLION FOR STRUGGLING BUSINESSES. THE PLAN ALSO INCLUDES AN EXTENSION OF THE EVICTION MORATORIUM.

**OCTOBER 5, 2020 5:00PM****IREDELL-STATESVILLE SCHOOLS RETURN TO CLASSROOM FULL-TIME**

THE YOUNGEST KIDS IN IREDELL-STATESVILLE SCHOOLS ARE BACK FULL TIME IN THE CLASSROOM. IT'S THE FIRST DISTRICT IN OUR AREA TO RETURN TO IN-PERSON FIVE DAYS A WEEK. THIS MORNING, CHANNEL NINE WAS OUTSIDE TROUTMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AS STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ARRIVED. STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR MASKS BUT WILL GET BREAKS WHEN THEY'RE SIX FEET APART. THERE IS STILL A VIRTUAL LEARNING OPTION FOR FAMILIES. NO MATTER WHAT PARENTS CHOOSE, STUDENTS WILL HAVE TO STICK WITH THAT OPTION THE ENTIRE SEMESTER.

**OCTOBER 13, 2020 NOON****HIGH SCHOOL WITH CONFEDERATE NAME TO BE RENAMED**

CHARLOTTE'S VANCE HIGH SCHOOL WILL GET A NEW NAME TODAY AFTER THE SCHOOL DISTRICT DECIDED IT WAS TIME TO SCRAP THE CURRENT ONE. THE SCHOOL IS CURRENTLY NAMED AFTER A CONFEDERATE COLONEL, BUT TONIGHT THE SCHOOL BOARD WILL VOTE ON A NEW NAME. THAT FOLLOWS FOUR MONTHS OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION AMONG A RENAMING COMMITTEE AND A SURVEY OF STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY.

**OCTOBER 16, 2020 6:00AM****CALDWELL CO. SCHOOLS PLANS FOR ALL IN-PERSON KINDERGARTEN**

DESPITE A RISE IN COVID-19 CASES, CALDWELL COUNTY SCHOOL LEADERS SAY THE DISTRICT WILL CONTINUE PLANS TO MOVE ALL ELEMENTARY STUDENTS BACK INTO THE CLASSROOM. KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST GRADE STUDENTS ARE ALREADY BACK FOUR DAYS A WEEK. STARTING MONDAY, STUDENTS K-5 WILL RETURN. JUST TWO WEEKS AGO, EVERY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT WAS SURVEYED. THE MAJORITY WERE IN FAVOR OF RETURNING. SINCE THE SURVEY, MORE THAN 300 PEOPLE HAVE TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 IN CALDWELL COUNTY. THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT SAYS THE MAJORITY OF THE POSITIVE CASES ARE PEOPLE AGES 25 TO 49.

**OCTOBER 24, 2020 11:00PM****WHITE HOUSE WANTS SOUTH CAROLINA CHARTER VOUCHERS**

THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION WANTS TO CHANGE THE SOUTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT'S DECISION TO BAN THE USE OF CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS ON PRIVATE SCHOOL VOUCHERS. THE STATE NEWSPAPER REPORTS THE COURT PROHIBITED GOVERNOR HENRY MCMASTER FROM USING \$32 MILLION IN FUNDING FOR PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN A UNANIMOUS RULING. THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IS ARGUING THAT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SAYS IT'S LAWFUL TO USE RELIEF MONEY FOR THIS PURPOSE.

**NOVEMBER 6, 2020 5:00PM**

## **JUDGE RULES CONTROVERSIAL BOOK CAN BE USED AT LOCAL SCHOOL**

A CONTROVERSIAL BOOK WILL CONTINUE TO BE TAUGHT AT LAKE NORMAN CHARTER SCHOOL. TODAY, A JUDGE DENIED THE REQUEST OF SEVERAL PARENTS TO REMOVE "POET X." THE BOOK'S MAIN CHARACTER STRUGGLES WITH FAITH, RELATIONSHIPS AND FINDING HER PLACE IN THE WORLD -- UNTIL SHE DISCOVERS COMFORT IN POETRY. A FEW PARENTS SUED, CLAIMING TEACHING THE BOOK VIOLATED RELIGIOUS CLAUSES OF THE CONSTITUTION.

**NOVEMBER 7, 2020 11:00PM**

## **CHARLOTTE SCHOOL LEADERS TO DISCUSS IN-PERSON SCHEDULE**

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS LEADERS COULD CHANGE THEIR PLAN FOR BRINGING MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS BACK TO CAMPUS. TODAY OUR EDUCATION REPORTER ELSA GILLIS LEARNED THE SCHOOL BOARD WILL TALK ABOUT CHANGES AT ITS MEETING NEXT TUESDAY. WE'RE WORKING TO FIND OUT WHAT COULD CHANGE. RIGHT NOW, MIDDLE SCHOOLERS ARE SCHEDULED TO RESUME IN-PERSON LEARNING ON NOVEMBER 23. THEY'D BE SPLIT INTO THREE GROUPS. EACH GROUP WOULD LEARN IN-PERSON FOR ONE WEEK, THEN VIRTUALLY FOR TWO WEEKS.

**NOVEMBER 9, 2020 6:00AM**

## **UNC CHAPEL HILL TO DEFEND AGAINST RACE ACCUSATIONS**

LEGAL TEAMS REPRESENTING UNC CHAPEL HILL, ARE HEADED TO COURT TODAY TO DEFEND THE SCHOOL'S ADMISSIONS PROCESS. ACCORDING TO THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, A GROUP CALLED "STUDENTS FOR FAIR ADMISSIONS" HAS ACCUSED UNC OF VIOLATING CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS BY WEIGHING RACE TOO HEAVILY DURING ADMISSIONS DECISIONS. THEY SAY THE SCHOOL FAVORS BLACK AND HISPANIC APPLICANTS OVER MORE QUALIFIED WHITE AND ASIAN-AMERICAN ONES. UNC HAS ARGUED THEY DON'T HAVE A NUMBER OR A FIXED WEIGHT DURING AN APPLICATION REVIEW. THE SCHOOL SAID SOME APPLICANTS DON'T EVEN SPECIFY THEIR RACE.

**NOVEMBER 11, 2020 NOON**

## **CHARLOTTE MOTHER STRUGGLES TO FEED KIDS DURING PANDEMIC**

THE SCHOOL MEALS THEY DEPEND ON ARE OUT OF REACH, THE SERVICE USED TO BRING THOSE MEALS TO THEIR HOME. BUT IT ENDED WHEN STUDENTS STARTED GOING BACK IN-PERSON. TAMEKIA MOOREHEAD IS THE MOTHER OF FOUR CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS STUDENTS, WHO ARE REMOTE LEARNING. THREE OF THEM HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS. SHE DOES NOT HAVE A CAR AND RELIED ON THE FREE MEAL BUNDLES DISTRICT BUSES ONCE DELIVERED. FOOD IS STILL AVAILABLE FOR PICK-UP, BUT SHE SAYS THAT'S NOT AN OPTION FOR HER FAMILY BECAUSE THEY DON'T HAVE A CAR AND CITY BUSES DON'T PICK UP IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD. MOOREHEAD SAYS SHE'S ASKED THE DISTRICT FOR HELP BUT HASN'T GOTTEN ANYWHERE YET AND HOPES SPEAKING OUT WILL HELP FIND SOME SOLUTION.

**DECEMBER 1, 2020 6:00AM**

## **CHARLOTTE PARENTS CAN NOW REGISTER FOR SCHOOL LOTTERY**

PARENTS WITH STUDENTS ENROLLED IN CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS CAN NOW SIGN UP FOR THE SCHOOL CHOICE LOTTERY PROGRAM. THIS IS FOR PARENTS WHO WANT TO ENROLL THEIR KIDS IN THE DISTRICT'S MAGNET PROGRAMS NEXT YEAR. PARENTS HAVE UNTIL DECEMBER 13 TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS. ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE SENT TO FAMILIES IN LATE DECEMBER.

**DECEMBER 2, 2020 NOON**

## **CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS HIRING BUS DRIVERS**

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS OFFICIALS ARE HOSTING A JOB FAIR TO HIRE QUALIFIED SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS. IT RUNS THROUGH 2 PM AT CMS HEADQUARTERS ON NORTHPOINTE INDUSTRIAL BOULEVARD. THE STARTING PAY FOR DRIVERS IS \$15.75 AN HOUR. TO APPLY YOU MUST HAVE A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE FOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS. THE DISTRICT HAS 10 VACANCIES RIGHT NOW, WITH 110 DRIVERS ON APPROVED LEAVE.

**DECEMBER 4, 2020 6:00AM**

## **NC LAUNCHES PILOT PROGRAM OF COVID TESTING IN SCHOOLS**

SOME NORTH CAROLINA STUDENTS COULD SOON GET TESTED FOR COVID-19 AT SCHOOL. THIS IS AN INTERESTING IDEA PARENTS WILL WANT TO HEAR. THE STATE IS LAUNCHING A PILOT PROGRAM THIS MONTH. ITS GOAL IS TO GET FREE ANTIGEN TESTS TO PUBLIC AND CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT APPLY TO BE PART OF THIS. THE TESTS COULD BE IN SCHOOLS NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 14. SCHOOLS INTERESTED SHOULD BE ABLE TO START APPLYING SHORTLY.

**DECEMBER 7, 2020 11:00PM**

## **AT LEAST 2 UNION CO. SCHOOLS WORKERS TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID**

IN UNION COUNTY, AT LEAST TWO SCHOOL EMPLOYEES HAVE TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19. ONE IS AT CUTHBERTSON HIGH SCHOOL. THAT FOLLOWS TWO STUDENT CASES LAST WEEK. THE SCHOOL SENT AN EMAIL TO PARENTS SAYING IT'S WORKING TO DETERMINE WHO HAD CLOSE CONTACT WITH THAT STAFF MEMBER. A STAFF MEMBER HAS ALSO TESTED POSITIVE AT ROCK REST ELEMENTARY. THE DISTRICT TELLS CHANNEL NINE THE SCHOOL WILL NOT BE CLOSING BECAUSE OF THE CASE. SINCE AUGUST, SIX SCHOOLS IN UNION COUNTY HAVE CLOSED FOR TWO WEEKS BECAUSE OF COVID-19 CASES. THEY ARE EAST UNION MIDDLE, POPLIN ELEMENTARY, SOUTH PROVIDENCE SCHOOL, UNIONVILLE ELEMENTARY, WEDDINGTON ELEMENTARY AND WESLEY CHAPEL ELEMENTARY.

OCTOBER 13, 2020 6:00PM

### **SENATOR THOM TILLIS ENDS SELF-QUARANTINE**

NORTH CAROLINA SENATOR THOM TILLIS WAS BACK IN WASHINGTON, D.C. A DAY AFTER HIS DOCTOR TOLD HIM TO END HIS SELF-QUARANTINE. TILLIS GOT COVID-19 AFTER PRESIDENT TRUMP AND MORE THAN A DOZEN OTHERS CONNECTED TO HIM TESTED POSITIVE. TILLIS ATTENDED THE SUPREME COURT CONFIRMATION HEARING OF AMY CONEY BARRETT IN PERSON TODAY.

OCTOBER 14, 2020 NOON

### **OBESE PEOPLE MORE LIKELY TO BE HOSPITALIZED FOR COVID-19**

A PROFESSOR AT UNC SAYS THOSE CONSIDERED OBESE DRASTICALLY INCREASE THE RISK OF BEING HOSPITALIZED FOR COVID-19. DOCTOR BARRY POPKIN LOOKED AT MORE THAN 70 STUDIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD. HE FOUND MORE THAN A 100% GREATER LIKELIHOOD OF SOMEONE WHO'S OBESE OF GOING TO A HOSPITAL IF THEY GET COVID-19. THAT PERSON IS NEARLY 75% MORE LIKELY TO GO INTO INTENSIVE CARE AND 48% MORE LIKELY TO DIE. DR. POPKIN SAID OBESITY MEANS YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM IS COMPROMISED AND YOUR LUNGS AREN'T FULLY FUNCTIONING, MAKING IT THAT MUCH HARDER TO FIGHT COVID-19.

OCTOBER 21, 2020 6:00AM

### **CDC: COVID DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTS CHILDREN OF COLOR**

AN 8-YEAR-OLD NORTH CAROLINA GIRL LOST HER LIFE TO COVID-19 OVER THE SUMMER. SHE'S THE FIRST AND ONLY CHILD IN NORTH CAROLINA TO DIE FROM THE VIRUS. NOW, CDC GUIDANCE SAYS COVID-19 IS DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTING CHILDREN OF COLOR. THE AGENCY STUDIED COVID-19 DEATHS AMONG PEOPLE UNDER THE AGE OF 21. IT FOUND EVEN THOUGH THERE WEREN'T MANY CASES, MORTALITY RATES WERE MUCH HIGHER WITH HISPANIC AND AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHILDREN. ACCORDING TO THE STUDY, OF THOSE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIED, ABOUT 45% ARE HISPANIC, 29% ARE BLACK, 4% AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE AND 14% ARE WHITE. DOCTORS SAY IT'S HARD RIGHT NOW TO IDENTIFY EXACTLY WHY THOSE NUMBERS ARE SO DISPROPORTIONATE. BUT THEY SPECULATE LOWER INCOMES AND INACCESSIBILITY TO HEALTH CARE FACTOR INTO THE HIGHER DEATH RATES IN HISPANIC AND BLACK COMMUNITIES.

**OCTOBER 28, 2020 6:00AM**

## **DOCTOR RECOMMENDS “BUBBLE” FOR HOLIDAY GATHERINGS**

NORTH CAROLINIANS ARE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO HANDLE HOLIDAY GATHERINGS WITHOUT THE RISK OF SPREADING COVID-19. ONE DOCTOR HAS COME UP WITH A WAY TO DO IT BY TAKING A PAGE FROM THE NBA PLAYBOOK. THE ONLY PERFECT EXAMPLE OF A LARGE GROUP OF PEOPLE THAT DID NOT PRODUCE A SINGLE COVID-19 CASE IS THE NBA AND THEIR BUBBLE. SO WHY NOT CREATE YOUR OWN? THE BUBBLE INSPIRED DOCTOR JAMES MCDEAVITT, WITH BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE. HE CREATED A HOLIDAY CHECKLIST FOR THE DAYS AND WEEKS LEADING TO YOUR GATHERING. IT SAYS YOU CAN START TODAY, BY GETTING YOUR FLU SHOT. THERE ARE ALSO THINGS YOU NEED TO DO TWO WEEKS BEFORE, LIKE DAILY TEMPERATURE CHECKS, MONITORING AND GETTING TESTED BEFORE YOUR EVENT. HE SAYS IF YOU ARE IMMUNOSUPPRESSED, ELDERLY OR HIGH-RISK, YOU NEED TO ASSESS YOUR SITUATION.

**NOVEMBER 9, 2020 5:00PM**

## **CHARLOTTE DOCTOR CONCERNED ABOUT VACCINE HESITANCE**

PFIZER REPORTS ITS COVID-19 VACCINE HAS BEEN 90% EFFECTIVE DURING TRIALS, GIVING HOPE TO PEOPLE IN CHARLOTTE AND THROUGHOUT NORTH CAROLINA THAT THE END OF THE PANDEMIC COULD BE IN SIGHT. THE COMPANY SAYS IT EXPECTS TO HAVE MORE THAN A BILLION DOSES READY TO GO BY NEXT YEAR. BUT CONVINCING PEOPLE TO GET THE VACCINE MAY BE A CHALLENGE. MANY ARE CONCERNED ABOUT HOW QUICKLY THE VACCINE IS BEING DEVELOPED. ACCORDING TO A NEW STUDY PUBLISHED TODAY IN THE MEDICAL JOURNAL, PEDIATRICS, 20% OF PARENTS IN THE U-S ARE "VACCINE HESITANT." THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION ESTIMATES ABOUT 70% OF PEOPLE MUST BE VACCINATED TO BREAK TRANSMISSION OF THE VIRUS. WE SPOKE WITH CHARLOTTE DOCTOR RYAN SHELTON ABOUT THIS TODAY. HE SAID, “WE CAN HAVE AN EFFECTIVENESS THAT IS SKY HIGH, BUT IF MOST PEOPLE WON’T TAKE THE VACCINE, THEN IT WON’T HAVE AN IMPACT LIKE IT COULD IF ALMOST EVERYBODY WOULD DO IT.”

**NOVEMBER 11, 2020 5:00PM**

## **COULD COVID-19 AFFECT LONG-TERM MENTAL HEALTH?**

MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS IN CHARLOTTE AND WORLDWIDE SAY THERE'S GROWING EVIDENCE THAT GETTING COVID-19 AFFECTS THE BRAIN AND MIND. RESEARCHERS AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY SAY 1 IN 5 SURVIVORS THEY STUDIED WERE DIAGNOSED WITH A MENTAL ILLNESS WITHIN 90 DAYS. THEY FOUND ANXIETY, DEPRESSION, INSOMNIA AND AN INCREASED RISK FOR DEMENTIA - EVEN THOUGH SURVIVORS NEVER HAD A MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSIS BEFORE. DOCTOR JAMES RACHAL AT ATRIUM HEALTH HERE IN CHARLOTTE SAID SOME OF THIS COULD BE CAUSED BY ISOLATION OR OTHER FACTORS THAT AREN'T YET KNOWN. CHANNEL 9 IS DEDICATED TO GETTING PEOPLE CONNECTED TO MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES. WE'VE POSTED A COUNTY-BY-COUNTY RESOURCE GUIDE ON THE WSOC APP.

**NOVEMBER 13, 2020 6:00AM**

## **NORTH CAROLINA STARTS TIGHTER COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS**

TODAY, TIGHTER RESTRICTIONS START IN NORTH CAROLINA TO STOP THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS. GATHERINGS OF MORE THAN TEN PEOPLE INDOORS AND 50 PEOPLE OUTDOORS ARE BANNED. THAT LASTS THROUGH THANKSGIVING AND IS SCHEDULED TO END DECEMBER 4. MEANWHILE, STATE HEALTH SECRETARY DR. MANDY COHEN EXPECTS RECORD-HIGH HOSPITALIZATIONS TO RISE AGAIN TODAY. HERE'S WHY: OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN ONLY COUNTING ANYONE WHO STAYS IN THE HOSPITAL UP TO 3 WEEKS. BUT STARTING TODAY, THE CDC NOW REQUIRES PATIENTS WHO ARE IN THE HOSPITAL LONGER THAN 3 WEEKS TO ALSO BE INCLUDED IN THAT DAILY COUNT.

**NOVEMBER 14, 2020 11:00PM**

## **NC DOCTOR OFFERS TOOL FOR POST-COVID MENTAL HEALTH**

WE'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT THE PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19. BUT MANY PEOPLE WHO'VE SURVIVED THOSE SYMPTOMS ARE STILL FIGHTING MENTAL ONES. RESEARCHERS SAY THE EFFECTS ARE SIMILAR TO A TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY. A DOCTOR IN ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, SAYS ONE TECHNOLOGY COULD HELP THOSE PATIENTS. IT'S A HYPERBARIC OXYGEN CHAMBER. THE AMOUNT OF OXYGEN INSIDE IS MUCH HIGHER THAN NORMAL, WHICH LEADS TO QUICKER HEALING. DR. MICHAEL TRAYFORD SAYS HE USES IT TO TREAT WOMEN WITH MENOPAUSE WHO GO THROUGH COGNITIVE DECLINE. BUT HE BELIEVES HE CAN HELP COVID PATIENTS TOO. DR. TRAYFORD SAYS IT COULD ALSO IMPROVE PATIENTS' BREATHING, SLEEPING AND MOVING.

**DECEMBER 14, 2020 6:00AM**

## **WOMAN SAYS OXIMETER HELPED HER SURVIVE COVID-19**

A WOMAN WANTS EVERYONE IN CHARLOTTE AND NORTH CAROLINA TO HEAR ABOUT A LITTLE DEVICE PLAYING A HUGE ROLE IN MILLIONS OF HOUSEHOLDS DURING THE PANDEMIC. IT'S CALLED A PULSE OXIMETER. IT CLIPS RIGHT ONTO YOUR FINGER AND MEASURES HOW MUCH OXYGEN IS IN YOUR BLOOD. ALISSA STEINBRUGGE WAS DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19 BACK IN AUGUST. SHE SAYS SHE FELT FINE FOR THE FIRST FIVE DAYS, BUT THEN TOOK A TURN. HER MOTHER BOUGHT HER THE METER WHICH REVEALED HER BLOOD-OXYGEN LEVEL WAS DANGEROUSLY LOW. "SO I WENT TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM AND THEY SAID 'THANK GOD YOU HAD AN OXIMETER,'" SHE SAID. SHE WAS ADMITTED INTO THE HOSPITAL AND STAYED THERE FOR A WEEK. NOT HAVING ENOUGH OXYGEN IN YOUR BLOOD COULD AFFECT VITAL ORGANS. ONE DOCTOR SAYS YOU SHOULD WATCH FOR LEVELS THAT FALL BELOW 94% BUT THESE DEVICES SHOULD ONLY BE USED AS A SCREENING TOOL. WE DID A QUICK CHECK ON AMAZON AND THESE DEVICES WERE READILY AVAILABLE FOR ANYWHERE BETWEEN \$16 AND \$25.

**DECEMBER 18, 2020 6:00AM**

## **COVID-19 VACCINE ARRIVES AT LOCAL HOSPITALS**

SOON, WE MAY HAVE ANOTHER WEAPON TO HELP BATTLE THE PANDEMIC. LAST NIGHT, AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE WITH THE FDA VOTED TO RECOMMEND EMERGENCY USE AUTHORIZATION OF MODERNA'S COVID-19 VACCINE. NOW, THE FDA WILL REVIEW THAT VOTE AND DECIDE WHETHER TO AUTHORIZE THE VACCINE. THAT DECISION COULD BE MADE AS SOON AS TODAY. MODERNA RELEASED A STATEMENT LAST NIGHT, SAYING IT'S BEEN WORKING WITH THE CDC AND THE GOVERNMENT TO GET THEIR VACCINE TO HOSPITALS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WHILE WE WAIT FOR MODERNA'S VACCINE TO GET FINAL APPROVAL, SHIPMENTS OF PFIZER'S VACCINE ARRIVED AT LOCAL HOSPITALS YESTERDAY. NOVANT PRESBYTERIAN IN CHARLOTTE RECEIVED ITS FIRST SHIPMENT YESTERDAY. HOURS LATER, DOCTORS AND NURSES THERE STARTED GETTING THE VACCINE. PIEDMONT MEDICAL CENTER IN ROCK HILL ALSO GOT THE VACCINE. THE FIRST DOSE WENT TO AN INFECTIOUS DISEASES DOCTOR, WHO HASN'T HAD A DAY OFF SINCE THE PANDEMIC STARTED.

**DECEMBER 20, 2020 11:00PM**

## **TWO COVID-19 VACCINES NOW APPROVED**

SOME ENCOURAGING NEWS TONIGHT... TWO COVID-19 VACCINES ARE NOW APPROVED. PEOPLE CAN START GETTING MODERNA'S VACCINE TOMORROW AFTER THE CDC DIRECTOR GAVE FINAL RECOMMENDATION TODAY. RIGHT NOW, MILLIONS OF DOSES ARE HEADING TO HOSPITALS ACROSS THE COUNTRY. FEDEX RECEIVED THE FIRST SHIPMENT AND TRANSPORTED IT TO THEIR DISTRIBUTION CENTER. NORTH CAROLINA WILL GET ABOUT 176,000 DOSES OF MODERNA'S VACCINE. IT TOOK UP TO FOUR DAYS FOR SOME HOSPITALS TO GET PFIZER'S VACCINE.

**DECEMBER 23, 2020 4:30AM**

## **COVID-19 VACCINES START NEXT WEEK FOR NC CARE FACILITIES**

MODERNA'S COVID-19 VACCINES ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE AT LONG TERM CARE CENTERS ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA AS SOON AS NEXT WEEK. IT CAN'T COME SOON ENOUGH FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHO'VE BEEN SEPARATED FOR MONTHS AND WANT TO SPEND CHRISTMAS TOGETHER. CVS AND WALGREENS ARE WORKING WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND PLAN TO VACCINATE ABOUT 1,800 FACILITIES IN NORTH CAROLINA. LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS WILL VACCINATE IN PLACES NOT IN THAT FEDERAL PROGRAM. THERE ARE 230, INCLUDING HOPE HAVEN HERE IN CHARLOTTE. THE NONPROFIT ON NORTH TRYON IS EAGER TO VACCINATE EVERYONE THERE. MECKLENBURG COUNTY LEADERS WANT TO GET THE BALL ROLLING AND ARE ALREADY REACHING OUT TO ALL OF THESE CENTERS TO GET INFO THEY'LL NEED.