

## **Quarterly Issues Report For Blue Ridge Public Radio – 1st Quarter of 2020 (July 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>)**

Blue Ridge Public Radio during its 24-hours broadcast day reports on issues vital to Western North Carolina. They include – government, politics, health care, housing, transportation, environment, education, science, demographics, race, LGBTQ, arts, culture, and public safety. Local newscasts are produced Monday through Friday during both Morning Edition and All Things Considered. Local newscasts are also occasionally produced on Saturday and Sunday mornings during Weekend Edition. The BPR news department also produces local stories and interviews that are inserted during Morning Edition and All Things Considered and also in local newscasts. Reports are also posted on the North Carolina Public Radio Exchange for use by other public radio stations in the state.

### **ARTS**

8/15 – First Published Eastern Band Novelist Hopes To Raise The Bar For Rural Writers -

<https://www.bpr.org/post/first-published-eastern-band-novelist-hopes-raise-bar-rural-writers>

8/20 – Addiction Erodes Appalachian Culture In David Joy’s Latest ‘When These Mountains Burn’ -

<https://www.bpr.org/post/addiction-erodes-appalachian-culture-david-joys-latest-when-these-mountains-burn>

9/23 – Protest Murals Marked History. What Happens Once They Come Down Isn’t Black Or White -

<https://www.bpr.org/post/protest-murals-marked-history-what-happens-once-they-come-down-isnt-black-or-white>

### **BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT**

7/9 – Eastern Band Files Amended Lawsuit To Block Catawba Casino -

<https://www.bpr.org/post/eastern-band-files-amended-lawsuit-block-catawaba-casino#stream/0>

8/3 – Housing Constructions Picks Up, Despite Pandemic - <https://www.bpr.org/post/housing-construction-picks-despite-pandemic>

9/3 – Labor Attorney Offers Guidance On Employer Rights In Mask Enforcement -

<https://www.bpr.org/post/labor-attorney-offers-guidance-employer-rights-mask-enforcement>

9/28 – With Citizen Vinyl, Asheville Drops The Needle On State’s Only Large-Scale Record Pressing Plant -

<https://www.bpr.org/post/citizen-vinyl-asheville-drops-needle-states-only-large-scale-record-pressing-plant>

## **EDUCATION**

7/22 – Western Carolina Faculty & Staff Voice COVID-19 Concerns, Prepare For Fall Semester - <https://www.bpr.org/post/western-carolina-faculty-and-staff-voice-covid-19-concerns-prepare-fall-semester>

8/4 – Busy To Begin With, NC School Nurses Get Read For Students To Return Amid Pandemic - <https://www.bpr.org/post/busy-begin-nc-school-nurses-get-ready-students-return-amid-pandemic>

8/17 – Buncombe County School Year Starts In-Class And At Home - <https://www.bpr.org/post/buncombe-county-school-year-starts-class-and-home>

## **ELECTION 2020**

7/30 - #NC11: Cawthorn Calls Reparations, Davis, & Liberals ‘Racist’ - <https://www.bpr.org/post/nc11-cawthorn-calls-reparations-davis-liberals-racist>

8/17 - #NC11 – Cawthorn Addresses Sexual Misconduct Allegations - <https://www.bpr.org/post/nc11-cawthorn-addresses-sexual-misconduct-allegations>

8/24 – President Trump Visits Mills River, Touts COVID-19 Farming Program After Renomination - <https://www.bpr.org/post/president-trump-visits-mills-river-touts-covid-19-farming-program-after-renomination>

9/17 – BPR News Presents: #NC11 Congressional Candidate Forum - <https://www.bpr.org/post/bpr-news-presents-nc11-congressional-candidate-forum>

9/17 - #NC11: Aggressive Tweets Overshadow Race - <https://www.bpr.org/post/nc11-aggressive-tweets-overshadow-race>

9/30 - #NCSen: Two New Polls Show Cunningham Still Leading, As BBQ Becomes This Week’s Issue - <https://www.bpr.org/post/ncsen-two-new-polls-show-cunningham-still-leading-bbq-becomes-weeks-issue>

## **ENVIRONMENT**

8/25 – Raising A Stink: Environmentalists Press City To Address Raw Sewage Runoff In French Broad River - <https://www.bpr.org/post/raising-stink-environmentalists-press-city-address-raw-sewage-runoff-french-broad-river>

## **HEALTH & HEALTHCARE**

7/14 – COVID-19 Strikes Hard In Westernmost Counties’ Latinx Communities - <https://www.bpr.org/post/covid-19-strikes-hard-westernmost-counties-latinx-communities#stream/0>

9/14 – COVID-19 Following Flu Season Trends In Graham County, Says Health Director - <https://www.bpr.org/post/covid-19-following-flu-season-trends-graham-county-says-health-director>

## **IMMIGRATION**

7/25 – COVID-19NC: Mexico & Guatemala Officials Add Their Voices To NC Coronavirus Prevention Efforts - <https://www.bpr.org/post/covid-19nc-mexico-guatemala-officials-add-their-voices-nc-coronavirus-prevention-efforts>

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

7/14 – Asheville City Council Paves Way For Reparations For City's Black Community - <https://www.bpr.org/post/asheville-city-council-paves-way-reparations-citys-black-community#stream/0>

7/30 – AVL City Council OK's 3-Month Budget, Delaying Any Action On Police Spending - <https://www.bpr.org/post/avl-city-council-oks-3-month-budget-delaying-any-action-police-spending>

8/4 – Buncombe County Commissioners Approve Their Own Reparations Resolution - <https://www.bpr.org/post/buncombe-county-commissioners-approve-their-own-reparations-resolution>

9/21 – Asheville City Council Approves Police Budget Cuts - <https://www.bpr.org/post/asheville-city-council-approves-police-budget-cuts>

## **LOCAL MUSIC**

9/1 – A Member Of Two Successful Groups, Eleanor Underhill Devotes Solo Music To 'Darker' Self - <https://www.bpr.org/post/member-two-successful-groups-eleanor-underhill-devotes-solo-music-darker-self>

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

7/1 – NC Sheriffs Say Masking Order Isn't Enforceable But Encourage Safety During COVID-19  
<https://www.bpr.org/post/nc-sheriffs-say-masking-order-isn-t-enforceable-encourage-safety-during-covid-19>

7/7 – Asheville Police Charge Three Men For Brining Firearms To Black Lives Matter Demonstration - <https://www.bpr.org/post/asheville-police-charge-three-men-bringing-firearms-black-lives-matter-demonstration>

8/28 – Buncombe County Sheriff Revises Use Of Force Policy - <https://www.bpr.org/post/buncombe-county-sheriff-revises-use-force-policy>

9/17 – What's A Demonstration? Why Guns Were Allowed In Downtown Sylva - <https://www.bpr.org/post/what-s-demonstration-why-guns-were-allowed-downtown-sylva>

## **RACE**

7/20 – PHOTOS: Black Lives Matter Mural In Pack Square - <https://www.bpr.org/post/photos-black-lives-matter-mural-pack-square>

7/26 – The End Of Dixie - <https://www.bpr.org/post/end-dixie>

8/11 – UNC Asheville Professors Sow Afro-Centric Narratives For Black Students, Parents - <https://www.bpr.org/post/unc-asheville-professors-sow-afro-centric-narratives-black-students-parents>

8/26 – ‘Whee United’ WCU Students March Against Racism - <https://www.bpr.org/post/whee-united-wcu-students-march-against-racism>

9/3 – Macon County’s First Black Principal Talks Integration, Racism, And COVID-19 - <https://www.bpr.org/post/macon-county-s-first-black-principal-talks-integration-racism-and-covid-19>

## **TRANSPORTATION**

9/22 – From Murphy To Manteo: The Great Trails State Plan - <https://www.bpr.org/post/murphy-manteo-great-trails-state-plan>

9/30 – Corridor K Is Moving Forward, NC DOT Seeks Public Comment - <https://www.bpr.org/post/corridor-k-moving-forward-nc-dot-seeks-public-comment>