

First Quarter 2012 Community Issues Report:

WCQS continues to take advantage of a number of opportunities it has during its twenty-four hour broadcast day to report on issues of importance to the residents of Western North Carolina, **the local economy, environment, planning and development, transportation, health care, education and politics.** Monday through Friday we produce local newscasts on the hour at six, seven and eight in the morning. The morning newscasts are two minutes long.

In addition to our local newscasts we produce in-depth stories that are inserted into our morning news-magazine "Morning Edition" and our afternoon news and cultural affairs program, "Fresh Air" and our afternoon news magazine 'All Things Considered'

2012-03-30

The weekend has arrived and Tony Kiss looks ahead to opening day of the 2012 baseball season, the arrival of the new movie Hunger Games, theater and dance. - 6 min

2012-03-28

The list of Republicans running for the party nomination to succeed Democrat Heath Shuler in the 11th Congressional district includes Henderson county resident Spence Campbell Susan Harris of Old Fort, Jeff Hunt of Brevard, Mark Meadows of Highlands, Vance Patterson of Morganton, Chris Petrella of Marion, Kenny West of Hayesville, and Ethan Wingfield of Arden. David Hurand spoke with Asheville Citizen Times reporter Jon Ostendorf about the crowded field... - 6 min

2012-03-16

Duncan McFadyen visits a property owner who protected her family's land with the help of a Blue Ridge Forever-affiliated conservation group. - 3 min

2012-03-14

A member of the Brevard College faculty has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to study and teach in Finland. David Hurand spoke with Ben Zeller, Assistant Professor of Religious Students. - 8 min

2012-03-12

U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack says his department has an important role to play in moving the country toward energy independence. David Hurand spoke with the Secretary about energy policy, the impact of higher fuel costs on farmers, the health of the farm economy, the average age of farmers, foreclosure rates in rural America, the growing interest in local and regional markets, and farm labor. - 9 min

2012-03-09

South by Southwest is underway in Austin, Texas and economic development officials from Asheville have an official role to play at one of the nation's largest conferences and festivals. David Hurand spoke with Ben Teague and Pam Lewis from the Greater Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce shortly before they left for SxSW. - 9 min

2012-03-08

It looks like spring has come early to Western North Carolina. Horticulturist Alison Arnold tells Duncan McFadyen about all the early spring blooms emerging in the region. - 4 min

2012-03-02

Genetically Commodified opens tonight at the Artery, home of the Asheville Area Arts Council in the River Arts District. David Hurand paid a visit and talked with the artist, Kirsten Stolle. - 4 min

2012-03-01

Christopher O'Riley is a concert pianist and host of the weekly public radio show "From The Top." It features extraordinarily talented children and teenagers. In addition to his performances and the show, he's known for his arrangements of popular music. Duncan McFadyen recently spoke to O'Riley, who is performing Saturday, March 3, at Diana Wortham Theater in Asheville. - 10 min

WCQS broadcasts interviews about cultural activities taking place in and around Asheville and the Western North Carolina region. These interviews take place weekday mornings at 9:06 and vary in length from 5 to 15 minutes. The following list details the dates, person interviewed, and topics discussed.

January 2012

- 9 North Carolina Stage Company - Catalyst Series
- 10 Asheville Chamber Music Series
- 11 Evergreen Charter School Fundraising Concert
- 24 Asheville Bravo Concerts
- 30 Duncan Wickle, Akira Satake Concert
- 31 Asheville Playback Theater

February

- 3 Blue Ridge Orchestra Concert
- 6 Warren Wilson College Theatre
- 7 Western Carolina University - Flamenco Vivo concert
- 10 Asheville Symphony Orchestra concert
- 13 NC Stage Company
- 14 Asheville Lyric Opera
- 15 Asheville Community Theatre "Chicago"
- 17 Brevard Philharmonic
- 20 Opera Creations
- 21 Open Doors of Asheville
- 22 UNC-A Theatre Department
- 28 Asheville Chamber Music Series

March

- 5 Pianoforte Concert at Asheville Art Museum
- 6 Asheville Bravo Concerts
- 8 Concerts at Altamont Theatre
- 9 Asheville Choral Society concert
- 12 Carolina Concert Choir
- 13 Asheville Bread Festival
- 16 Asheville Symphony concert
- 19 UNC-Asheville Theater
- 20 Brevard Philharmonic Concert
- 23 Asheville Contemporary Dance Theater Men's Dance Festival
- 26 North Carolina Stage Company
- 27 Blue Ridge Orchestra concert
- 29 Mars Hill College New Music Festival
- 30 Art Exhibit: Waking Up With Van Gogh

2012-02-29

A busy week of college basketball gets underway today. Its an economic plus for Asheville and Buncombe County. Southern Conference and Big South tournament play. David Hurand reports: - 4 min

2012-02-29

In recognition of Black History Month, WCQS spoke with two native Western North Carolinans, Lucille Ray, 88, and Henry Robinson, 74, both of Asheville. Duncan McFadyen asked them about their recollections of race relations in the region over their lifetimes. - 6 min

2012-02-27

The State of downtown Asheville luncheon is today. David Hurand reports: - 2 min

2012-02-24

The State Legislative Study Committee looking into the history and future of the Asheville water system held a public meeting at the Western North Carolina Agricultural Center Thursday (2/24/12). The committee is considering three options, creation of an independent regional water authority, merging the system with M.S.D., or leaving the system in the hands of the City of Asheville. David Hurand reports. - 4 min

2012-02-24

With temperatures forecast to drop nearly forty degrees the evening of Friday, February 24, many Western North Carolina gardeners are scrambling to protect their plants from frost damage. WCQS contributor horticulturist Alison Arnold talked to Duncan McFadyen about which plants are most at risk and how to shield them from the cold. - 1 min

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2012-02-24

Duncan McFadyen talks to Maggie Kramer of the Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP) about local produce during the winter and the organization's "Business of Farming" Conference. - 5 min

2012-02-23

Horticulturist Alison Arnold says people often approach her about their gardening problems. She tells them even people who believe they have "brown thumbs" can be successful gardeners. - 5 min

2012-02-17

Tony Kiss takes a look at the weekend entertainment scene. - 6 min

2012-02-14

Buncombe County democrat Jane Whilden is expected to officially enter the race today (2/14/12) to represent district 116 in the North Carolina House of Representatives. Her decision is likely to mean a rematch with incumbent republican Representative Tim Moffitt. David Hurand spoke with Mt. Xpress reporter Jake Frankel about the third face off between Moffitt and Whilden. - 5 min

2012-02-13

Greenpeace activists launched an anti-coal-fired power plant protest in Asheville this morning at the Progress Energy Plant near the Asheville Regional Airport. Activists gained access to the site before dawn. David Hurand spoke with Greenpeace organizing manager Ruthie Morrison this afternoon. - 3 min

2012-02-10

Tony Kiss has many suggestions for weekend entertainment, including the re-release of Star Wars Episode I in 3D. - 6 min

2012-02-09

More North Carolina methamphetamine producers than ever were shut down in 2011. That's according to new Data from the NC Dept. of Justice. Jon Elliston is covering the story for Carolina Public Press, and he spoke to Duncan McFadyen. - 3 min

2012-02-06

The 1998 North Carolina Tobacco Master Settlement agreement is projected to generate \$4.6 billion over 25 years. In 1999 and 2000 the NC General Assembly created the Golden Leaf Foundation, the Health and Wellness Trust Fund and the Tobacco Trust Fund. The President and CEO of the Foundation, the chair of the board and its program director recently spoke with David Hurand. - 14 min

2012-02-03

Tony Kiss reports on the area entertainment scene; theater, movies, music, and some up coming dates of note. - 6 min

2012-02-03

Congressman's Health Shuler's decision not to seek re-election came as a complete surprise to Buncombe County Commissioner Carol Peterson. Peterson has been a delegate to the last four Democratic Party National Conventions. She spoke with David Hurand Friday morning at the Council of Independent Business Owners Issues Breakfast. - 6 min

2012-02-02

An Asheville physician has been named to the Board of Directors of the Alzheimer's Association. The Association is the leading global voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care and support and the largest not for profit engaged in funding disease research. David Hurand has more. - 4 min

2012-02-01

Atmospheric Scientist Dr. Ed Brotak talks to Duncan McFadyen about the winter so far and what to expect for the rest of the season. - 7 min

2012-01-27

Duncan McFadyen talks to the regional manager of the Division of Employment Security, formerly the Employment Security Commission, Jim McMahon. - 4 min

2012-01-26

Horticulturist Alison Arnold talks to Duncan McFadyen about soil testing. - 5 min

2012-01-26

North Carolina Governor Bev Perdue has announced she will not seek re-election. David Hurand spoke with Buncombe County Democrat, State Representative Susan Fisher about the Governor's decision... - 8 min

2012-01-26

NC Representative Ray Rapp (D-118) reacts to Governor Perdue's decision not to seek re-election. - 7 min

2012-01-23

State Lawmakers will hold hearings today (Monday 1/23/12) on the history of the Asheville water system. David Hurand reports. - 4 min

2012-01-20

Tony Kiss takes a look at the regional entertainment scene. - 6 min

2012-01-17

The South Carolina Republican Party Presidential primary is five days away. Last night the five remaining candidates vying for their party's nomination were in Myrtle Beach for another debate. WCQS Morning Edition host and reporter Duncan McFadyen was there. He spoke with David Hurand. - 6 min

2012-01-13

Tony Kiss takes a look at the upcoming entertainment scene. - 6 min

2012-01-11

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Climatic Data Center in Asheville is hosting a forum on trends in extreme winds, waves, and extratropical storms along the U.S. coastline. David Hurand spoke with Ann Waple, Program Manager for NOAA's Assessment Services, and Deke Arndt, Chief of the Climate Monitoring Branch with the National Climatic Data Center. - 14 min

2012-01-06

Tony Kiss takes a look at the up-coming entertainment scene. - 6 min

2012-01-02

Atmospheric Scientist Dr. Ed Brotak talks about the winter forecast for WNC. - 4 min

2012-01-02

Horticulturist Alison Arnold talks to Duncan McFadyen about winter interest plants. - 5 min