

Issues and Programs: Serving the Public

WELS-FM, Kinston; WNCT (AM), Greenville; and WAVQ ,Jacksonville; ("Stations"), ascertain in an ongoing basis the Issues affecting the communities we serve ("Listening Area").

The following list represents what the General Manager in collaboration with the Program Directors, and interactions with community leaders have determined to be the primary Issues in the Stations' Listening Areas.

The quarterly Issues and Programs Report provides the public file with the date, time, duration, and content of issues that the station has ascertained as most important and the programming the station has broadcast responsive to these issues.

The Issues Ascertained by the Station

During this reporting period, we have identified a total of eight (8) Issues that affect our Listening Area. Each "issue" has been discussed on programs associated with it.

- 1. Politics
- Economics
- 3. Crime
- 4. International Affairs
- Health Care
- 6. Transportation
- 7. Education
- 8. Government/Political Affairs

Following is a listing of some of the community events held and/or supported by Stations, WELS/WNCT/WAVQ, along with the issues addressed or supported by the event or proceed from the event for the period 10/1/23 – 12/31/23. This listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

10/1 – 12/31 COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Station personalities went out into the local community to promote, visit, and support local events, locations, and businesses. In November station personnel promoted The Wall That Heals in Havelock, NC, in support of all military branches. In November and December, the station was again a major sponsor for the area Toys For Tots campaign, broadcasting live at several collection locations, as well as running both live and recorded promotional announcements, and website promotion.

Ascertained issues discussed: 7

10/1 - 12/31 WEATHER ADVISORIES

Live updates and information regarding pending and current weather events including weather locations, types, precautions, and utility outages.

Ascertained issues discussed: 5,6

Many other community events and causes received on-air coverage and/or support during the period 10/1 – 12/31. This listing includes a sample of those topics.

Carolina Newsmakers is a weekly hour-long program hosted by owner Don Curtis. Carolina Newsmakers features guests with discussions on the Issues and Problems for the Station.

Carolina Newsmakers airs at 6am every Sunday Morning and is 25-30 minutes long. This program is hosted each week by station owner Don Curtis. The following is each story carried on Carolina Newsmakers. Please note the date for each broadcast, as well as the corresponding number for the Issue as described herein.

Carolina Newsmakers Content Fourth Quarter - 2023

10-8

INTERVIEW WITH TOM JENSEN - DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC POLICY POLLING POLITICS, POLLING, ELECTIONS, U.S. CONGRESS, ABORTION, UNAFFILIATED VOTERS, GOVERNOR'S RACE, COUNCIL OF STATE, GENERAL ASSEMBLY, CRIME, NEWS AND MEDIA, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, AND SOCIAL MEDIA.

ISSUES DISCUSSED: 1, 3

10-15

INTERVIEW WITH ANDY ELLEN - PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA RETAIL MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

INFLATION, RECESSION, ECONOMY, RETAIL, ONLINE SALES, THEFT, ORGANIZED CRIME, LEGISLATION, RESTAURANTS, ALCOHOL, COVID-19, REMOTE WORK, SELF CHECKOUT, LABOR SHORTAGE, AND SPORTS BETTING.

ISSUES DISCUSSED: 2, 3

10-22

INTERVIEW WITH JOHN HOOD - PRESIDENT OF THE JOHN WILLIAM POPE FOUNDATION REDISTRICTING, CONGRESSIONAL MAPS, POPULATION, REPUBLICAN PARTY, NO LABELS PARTY, ARTIFICAL INTELLIGENCE, MEDIA, JOURNALISM, FEDERAL DEFICIT, ISRAEL, UKRAINE, AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

ISSUES DISCUSSED: 1, 4

10-29

INTERVIEW WITH KIM JANZEN - PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE SPCA OF WAKE COUNTY PET SHELTERS, SPCA FUNDING, PARTNERSHIPS, PET ADOPTION, FOSTERING PETS, PET BREEDERS, COVID-19, LEGISLATION, AND ABUSE.

ISSUES DISCUSSED: 1

11-5

INTERVIEW WITH DALE FOLWELL – NORTH CAROLINA STATE TREASURER ECONOMY, HEALTH CARE, DRUG PRICES, MEDICAID, NATIONAL DEBT, STATE PENSION PLAN, FRAUD, UNCLAIMED CASH, INTEREST RATES, TAXATION, AND HOSPITALS.

ISSUES DISCUSSED: 1, 2, 5

11-12

INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL LANDGUTH - PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE RALEIGH-DURHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

AIR TRAVEL, TRANSPORTATION, SECURITY, INFRASTRUCTURE, INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, EMPLOYMENT, PARKING, EXPANSION.

ISSUES DISCUSSED: 6, 8

11-19

INTERVIEW WITH CONGRESSWOMAN VIRGINIA FOXX GOVERNEMENT FUNDING, GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN, HOUSE SPEAKER, REP. GEORGE SANTOS, REDISTRICTING, EDUCATION, STUDENT DEBT, ECONOMY, SOCIAL SECURITY, ENTITELMENT PROGRAMS, EMPLOYMENT, ISRAEL-HAMAS, UKRAINE-RUSSIA, AND NATIONAL DEFENSE.

ISSUES DISCUSSED: 1, 4, 7, 8

11-26

INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL WALDEN - NC STATE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR EMERITUS ECONOMY, INFLATION, RECESSION, INTEREST RATES, HOUSING MARKET, CHINA, RUSSIA, STOCK MARKET, NATIONAL DEBT, TAXATION, SOCIAL SECURITY, STUDENT DEBT, EMPLOYMENT, AND MEDICAID EXPANSION.

ISSUES DISCUSSED: 1, 2, 7

12-3

INTERVIEW WITH KEVIN LEONARD - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ASSOCIATION ORIGINS, HOW COUNTIES OPERATE, INFLATION, TAXATION, CONSOLIDATION, MENTAL HEALTH, TRANSPORATION, FIRE DEPARTMENTS, SCHOOL SYSTEMS, EDUCATION, MEDICAID EXPANSION, AND OPIOIDS.

ISSUES DISCUSSED: 1, 7, 8

INTERVIEW WITH BOB PHILLIPS - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF COMMON CAUSE NORTH CAROLINA

ELECTIONS, POLITICS, REDISTRICTING, MEDIA, BIAS, MONEY IN POLITICS, COMMON CAUSE BACKGROUND, ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS, EARLY VOTING, LEGISLATION, MAIL-IN BALLOTS, SAME-DAY REGISTRATION, AND VOTER FRAUD.

ISSUES DISCUSSED: 1,8

12-17

INTERVIEW WITH TIM BRADLEY - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

STATE FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION BACKGROUND, GOVERNMENT, LEGISLATION, VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS, STATE FIREMARSHALL, FIRE SAFETY, HOLIDAY HAZARDS, SMOKE DETECTORS, RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLERS, TRAINING, FUNDING, BENEFITS, HEALTH, AND INSURANCE.

ISSUES DISCUSSED: 1, 5, 8

12-24

INTERVIEW WITH ELAINE MARSHALL - NORTH CAROLINA SECRETARY OF STATE SECRETARY OF STATE DUTIES, SCAMS, FRAUD, ELECTIONS, CAMPAIGNING, WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, BUSINESS CREATION, RURAL RISE, AND BROADBAND.

ISSUES DISCUSSED: 1, 2,

12-31

INTERVIEW WITH JOHN HOOD – PRESIDENT OF THE JOHN WILLIAM POPE FOUNDATION POLITICS, ELECTIONS, REDISTRICTING, NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY, CONGRESS, EVONOMY, JOE BIDEN, DONALD TRUMP, TAXATION, LEGISLATIVE SESSION, HEALTH CARE, AND ENERGY.

ISSUES DISCUSSED: 1,8