

Agriculture

In North Carolina, hunting license sales have remained steady despite a national decline. However, an aging group of active hunters may spell trouble for state agencies that rely on license sales for funding. A new hunting education program targets university students to cultivate the next, more diverse generation of hunters.

FEATURE, ME, 03/14/2023

Arts/Culture:

Vivian Leva and Riley Calcagno are better known to music lovers as Viv & Riley. The indie duo's latest record is called IMAGINARY PEOPLE and melds bright production elements with wistful and sometimes bittersweet stories that recognize their roots on opposite sides of the country while looking ahead to an uncertain future.

FEATURE, ME, 01/05/2024

While accepting an honorary Grammy, Jay-Z criticized the Recording Academy for ignoring Black artists, including his wife, Beyonce.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/05/2024

Maurice Sendak's new book: Ten Little Rabbits by Maurice Sendak will be released to the public on Tuesday. On a visit to his home, we learned he always whistled while working. Each book had a certain song to go along with it.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/07/2024

Giant Puppets are teaming up with a couple of Grammy nominees to connect people to their ancestors and the natural world. Paper hand Puppet Intervention and Pierce and Nnenna Freelon are putting on a show at DPAC tonight called WHERE OUR SPIRITS RESIDE.

FEATURE, ME, 02/14/2024

Crime/Law Enforcement:**Economy:****Education:**

Historically Black Colleges and Universities have been in the spotlight the past few years, experiencing a spike in donations and students. Leoneda Inge - co-host of "Due South" - is spending the year highlighting H-B-C-Us, their strengths, struggles and resiliency in the series "H-B-C-U 101."

FEATURE, ATC, 02/06/2024

Dartmouth College is going back to requiring the SAT after it found students from less advantaged backgrounds were not submitting test scores that were high enough to help them get in.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/06/2024

Durham educators and staff recently organized sickouts that closed schools for four days, as they pushed to have a say about pay raises. But unlike in many states, North Carolina public school teachers cannot collectively bargain contracts. Liz Schlemmer reports that this situation has broad effects for public school employees.

FEATURE, ME, 03/04/2024

It's been a rough six months for the Alamance-Burlington School System. The district between the Triangle and Triad has had financial problems for years, but it went completely broke after spending 26-million dollars cleaning up mold at nearly all its school buildings last summer. Since then, district leaders have been at odds with Alamance County Commissioners about how to bring their public schools out of financial crisis. Two school administrators have resigned in the last two months, including the superintendent.

FEATURE, ME, 03/28/2024

Environment:

Deadly encounters between people and elephants are on the rise in Sri Lanka. On average, more than one elephant dies each day, while a human is killed every two days. Conservationists are seeking urgent action from the government because both casualty counts are the deadliest on record - and a stark reminder of the fatal consequences when humans' cross paths with these majestic animals. Host Carolyn Beeler speaks with Ravi Corea, president of the Sri Lanka Wildlife Conservation Society, about Sri Lanka's growing elephant problem.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/06/2024

The European Union has scrapped a plan to halve pesticide use by 2030, under pressure from farmers across the bloc. The farmers have been blocking access to major cities with their tractors. They say they need pesticides - and a raft of protections - to survive. Far-right politicians, predicted to surge into third place in the European Parliament in June elections, are wooing the farmers with their own protectionist ideology. The victim in all this could just be the environment.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/08/2024

Sea Otters and Erosion: For decades, the number of California sea otters cratered. But they've been making a comeback -- and are helping curb erosion along the coast by eating the crabs that accelerate it.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/08/2024

Lake Mattamuskeet is the largest natural freshwater lake in North Carolina. Since the early 1990's, the lake has experienced declining water quality, leading to harmful algal blooms. A proposal from the U-S Fish and Wildlife Service would address these algal blooms using a chemical treatment. But some conservationists say the treatment could harm migratory birds. WUNC's environmental reporter Celeste Gracia reports.

FEATURE, ME, 03/04/2024

Greensboro/Triad:

Health:

On Thursday, the board that oversees North Carolina's State Health Plan will consider dropping coverage for weight loss drugs like Wegovy and Saxenda. Jason deBruyn reports this could impact more than 23-thousand state workers who rely on these medicines.

FEATURE, ATC, 01/23/2024

The State Health Plan Board of Trustees voted yesterday to remove coverage of expensive weight loss drugs like Wegovy and Saxenda for nearly 25-thousand state employees.

FEATURE, ME, 01/26/2024

Doctors have long dealt with threats to their careers if they are open about mental illness and substance use disorders. Now, about two dozen states are changing licensing forms to lessen the stigma.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/06/2024

Long COVID research goes private: Advocates say the federal government is no longer viewing long COVID with the urgency it deserves. Private donors are now funding research bringing an unprecedented level of collaboration.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/07/2024

High levels of lead in drinking water are a health risk to children. But more than half of North Carolina public school buildings were built before the federal government began regulating lead. Now with federal funding, this year, all public schools across the state will be required to test for lead and asbestos. Liz Schlemmer has more on how that's going at a hundred-year-old school building in Durham.

FEATURE, ME, 03/19/2024

Military:

A new study on veterans' health is tracking the long-term effects of toxic exposure from burn pits. It uses artificial intelligence and a finger-worn monitor to collect health data over several years. Researchers say they want to learn more about burn pit exposure and develop new tests and treatments.

FEATURE, ATC, 01/03/2024

A group of transgender veterans has sued the V-A over its unfulfilled promise to provide and pay for gender affirming surgery. Two years ago, agency officials announced they would change federal policy and allow transgender veterans to undergo the procedure through the V-A. But the government still hasn't followed through, and veterans say they're tired of waiting.

FEATURE, ME, 01/26/2024

Two years ago, the Pentagon enacted a policy designed to keep extremists out of the military. But in practice, it can be hard to distinguish extremism from protected political speech.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/08/2024

Congress is considering whether to override a V-A policy that critics say deprives some veterans of gun ownership rights. Veterans can lose their gun rights if the V-A determines they can't manage their finances.

FEATURE, ME, 02/14/2024

Since September, the federal government has been operating under the almost constant threat of a shutdown. Political squabbles have kept Congress from passing long-term budgets, so they've approved a series of stop-gap funding bills that last only a few weeks at a time. Among the people most affected are military families, who worry that a shutdown would leave them without paychecks ... and government services they rely upon.

FEATURE, ME, 03/07/2024

Thursday, the nation will bestow the Congressional Gold Medal on men who have been called "combat con artists." WUNC's Jay Price reports on a long-secret Army unit that helped win World War II with battlefield deception.

FEATURE, ME, 03/19/2024

Politics/Government:

State employees in downtown Raleigh have been on the move in recent months to make way for major office construction projects. Colin Campbell has details.

FEATURE, ATC, 01/02/2024

North Carolina is facing an affordable housing crisis, and it's become an issue in the race for governor.

FEATURE, ME, 01/29/2024

Senegal Election Delay: In Senegal, a delayed presidential election is causing concern for the future of its democracy. The delay was ratified in parliament amidst scenes of chaos -- scenes that were mirrored on the streets.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/06/2024

Brazil's former President Jair Bolsonaro has been given 24 hours to hand in his passport. Some of his closest advisors have been targeted in a police investigation into an alleged coup attempt.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/08/2024

Several veteran Democrats in the state legislature are facing challengers from inside their party in next month's primary. As

Colin Campbell reports, their opponents are criticizing them for crossing party lines to vote with Republicans.

FEATURE, ME, 02/13/2024

When Guillermo [ghee-AIR-moh] Nurse was elected mayor of Oxford, North Carolina in November, he became the first Latino mayor in the state. He's also the first Black mayor of Oxford, a small majority African American town just north of the Triangle.

Nurse, a native of Panama and 22-year veteran in the U-S Navy, ran on a platform of unity in a town that he says has struggled with racial and economic division for decades. Will Michaels reports on how the new mayor intends to bring his town together.

FEATURE, ME, 02/13/2024

The Biden administration's effort to remove an estimated 9.2 million lead pipes from the nation's public and private water systems has begun. The first step in that process is a mandated service line inventory due later this year. But for local governments across North Carolina, it's unclear where the money to cover the full cost of the inventory will come from. And that will likely place some of the burden on local utility customers.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/15/2024

Early in-person voting starts today [THURSDAY]. For many North Carolina voters it will be the first time they cast a ballot under a photo I-D law drafted in 2018.

FEATURE, ME, 02/15/2024

Republican candidates for Congress are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars of their own money to buy T-V ads. Colin Campbell has more on why it's becoming more costly to win a seat representing North Carolina in Congress.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/19/2024

A lack of housing on the nation's Navy bases is forcing many sailors to live on ships, even when they're back in port in the U.S. It's part of a military-wide problem of inadequate or sub-standard housing.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/21/2024

Two prominent Democrats will face off in next week's primary for attorney general. But the biggest spender in the race isn't the two campaigns - it's a shadowy group based in Washington, D-C.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/26/2024

A lot of the drama ended almost immediately when the polls closed in North Carolina last night. Races were very quickly called for president, with Donald Trump and Joe Biden winning big. But there were some significant results, and a few surprises, down the ballot.

FEATURE, ME, 03/06/2024

College students typically turn out for elections in lower numbers than older voters--but can still swing outcomes. Voting and Elections Integrity Reporter Rusty Jacobs recently visited a couple of North Carolina campuses to talk with students.

FEATURE, ME, 03/21/2024

Race/Diversity:

The Department of the Interior updated the rules for repatriation of Indigenous remains from museums and federal agencies. BPR's Lilly Knoepp spoke to the Eastern Band of Cherokee's Tribal Historic Preservation Office about what the new rules mean.

FEATURE, ME, 01/04/2024

Starting in the mid-1970s, many Hmong (muhng, rhymes with hung) people – an ethnic minority in southeast Asia – fled for the U.S. Many of them resettled in North Carolina, which now has the country's fourth-largest Hmong population. As these immigrants get older, their health needs have also grown. But the Hmong language can be challenging to translate in healthcare settings, so their adult children often have to serve as interpreters.

FEATURE, ME, 03/15/2024

Science/Technology:

North Carolina is a growing part of what's becoming known as the "battery belt" in the Southeast U-S. The region is attracting new factories and other projects in the clean-energy industry.

FEATURE, ME, 03/13/2024

Sports:

The inaugural season of the Professional Women's Hockey League - or the PWHL - is underway, with six teams across Canada and the US. But Jayna Hefford, a five-time Olympic medalist in the sport and the league's Senior Vice President of Hockey Operations, says the PWHL's impact will also be felt outside of North America. The World's Bianca Hillier reports from a game in Lowell, Massachusetts.

FEATURE, ATC, 02/07/2024

Transportation:

Weather:

Other: