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## QUARTERLY ISSUES – PROGRAMS LISTS

Covering the Period

January 1, 2024

Through

March 31, 2024

## **Community Needs and Issues List – WKCF – CW18, Hearst Orlando**

Based upon **CW18's** involvement in its community and input from community leaders and various organizations, **CW18** has determined that the following issues are the concerns of the community:

1. **CRIME**  
Below the surface of everyday life, mischief and mayhem plague America's urban cities and counties.
2. **PERSONAL/PUBLIC SAFETY:**  
With a high murder rate and crimes on the rise in Central Florida, viewers need to be informed of the dangers and how they can protect themselves and their children. Plus, with more and more people on city streets and highways, viewers need to be aware of driving risks and ways to avoid them.
3. **ECONOMY**  
As the economy recovers, communities are growing but hesitant. Our viewers are interested in how to participate in better economic times while keeping investments safe. They are also very observant of how our leaders and local companies are being responsible with their spending.
4. **GOVERNMENT & POLITICS**  
Local, State, and Federal Governments struggle to meet the needs of constituents amidst a tough economy and with intense parties that are in political battles.
5. **HEALTH**  
Knowledge is the key to long life and discipline is the way to healthy living. Experts work out the minds and bodies of the American people.
6. **COVID-19**  
Facing new surges of rapid spreading COVID-19 variants, like the Delta variant, which are crushing hospitals and medical providers, it has never been more important for us to concentrate our efforts on bringing up-to-date information to our community. We inform viewers with the latest details on how to stay safe and the actions to take to keep us all protected. The reported numbers are staggering with information on the amount of people, from the elderly to infants, with or without underlying health issues, infected with or dying from the coronavirus. This pandemic has affected everything from the Stock Market, large and small business, travel, and more and it has fueled controversy in our communities.
7. **SOCIAL-FAMILY**  
As Central Florida expands and grows, so comes growing pains. It is important that the process of development includes collective actions and solutions generated by leaders and residents in our communities. Our stations provide information and stories that bring those issues and proposed changes to the public, so they can be a part of the narrative.
8. **PROJECT CommUNITY:** Focusing on timely issues like bullying, race relations, gun violence, and the environment, this initiative dives deep into the issues that divide communities. It celebrates the residents who are leading the call to unite people. Specials and news stories highlight the differences and bring people together.
9. **EDUCATION**  
Central Florida's education is a hot topic in Florida government and viewers are concerned about overcrowding, funding, and ways to get parents more involved. Education is the key to preventing crimes and drug and alcohol abuse.
10. **WEATHER**  
Central Florida is known as the "Lightening Capital of the World." The weather continues to be an intense topic because of the danger's tornadoes, hurricanes, wildfires, thunderstorms, lightening, and flooding can impose.

**A SYNOPSIS OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND PROGRAM VEHICLES  
THAT REGULARLY DEAL WITH  
COMMUNITY ISSUES-PROBLEMS AND NEEDS  
1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER 2024**

**WESH 2 NEWS on CW18 regularly communicates public affairs program segments that deal with local issues, problems, and needs in the News. These service and integrated additional segments are as follows:**

<i>WESH 2 News on CW18</i>	4AM-5AM
<i>WESH 2 News on CW18</i>	4:30AM-5AM
<i>WESH 2 News on CW18</i>	5AM-6AM, Monday-Friday
<i>WESH 2 News on CW18</i>	7AM-9AM, Monday-Friday
<i>WESH 2 News on CW18</i>	10AM-11PM, Monday-Sunday
<i>WESH 2 News on CW18</i>	9AM-10AM, Monday-Friday

**TRAFFIC REPORTS:** As a service to commuters, WESH 2 presents LIVE traffic reports which give viewers a visual location of traffic congestion, fires, and severe weather, which accompany the audio reports.

**FRIDAY FURRY FRIENDS:** Every Friday, a pet that is available for adoption is featured; this is in partnership with the Seminole County and Orange County Animal Services.

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<i>WESH 2 News on CW18</i>	4AM-5AM
<i>WESH 2 News on CW18</i>	4:30AM-5AM
<i>WESH 2 News on CW18</i>	5AM-6AM, Monday-Friday
<i>WESH 2 News Sunrise (simulcast)</i>	6AM-7AM, Monday-Friday

**TRAFFIC REPORTS:** As a service to commuters, WESH 2 News presents LIVE traffic reports which give viewers a visual location of traffic congestion, fires, and severe weather, which accompany the audio reports.

**COMMITMENT 2024:** A daily commitment to viewers to devote a large amount of time to political coverage in WESH 2 News reports, programs, and on-line.

**PROJECT CommUNITY:** Focusing on timely issues like bullying, race relations, gun violence, and the environment, this initiative dives deep into the issues that divide communities. It celebrates the residents who are leading the call to unite people. Specials and news stories highlight the differences and bring people together.

***Need description details:***

## **ISSUES PROGRAMMING**

### ***BUCS: Countdown to Kickoff***

**Date and Time: January 19, 2024 at 7:30-8pm**

*BUCS: Countdown to Kickoff:* Preview of the upcoming BUCS playoff game with interviews, features and expert analysis. WESH 2 Sports brings you all the details and stats before kickoff.

### ***WESH 2 Project CommUNITY: Saving our Streets***

**Date and Time: February 25, 2024 at 11-11:30pm**

*WESH 2 Project CommUNITY: Saving Our Streets:* It's been a year since the Pine Hills triple murder that forced Orange County to take a hard look at kids and crime in our community. In our ongoing reporting project Saving Our Streets, we look at what's been accomplished in the last year to make communities safer, the grassroots organizations leading this non-stop work, and what still needs to be done.

## WESH 2 NEWS on CW18 – CRIME

Date: 1/6/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:54

Summary: Belvedere Terminals, the company behind an effort to build a fuel farm in Ormond Beach, is now suing Volusia County. They say a new ordinance is singling them out and violating their constitutional rights. WESH 2's Liv Johnson explains the issue and what Ormond Beach residents have to say about the project.

Date: 1/6/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:47

Summary: Rising HOA fees are a major concern for homeowners across the state. The fight continues for homeowner's rights. WESH 2's Megan Mellado is breaking down two new bills filed to help Floridians know the rules and pay less for any violations.

Date: 1/6/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 3:14

Summary: If one of your New Year's resolutions is picking up a new hobby, we have an idea for you. You could learn how to tuft rugs at the Orlando Science Center. WESH 2's Eric Burriss explains how it works in the Science of It.

Date: 1/7/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:43

Summary: A Republican representative in Florida filed a bill to lower the age limit for buying guns and he did it on the same day a gunman killed a student at an Iowa high school. WESH 2's Liv Johnson explains the push to allow 18 year olds to buy lethal weapons in Florida.

Date: 1/7/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:48

Summary: The United Launch Alliance is getting ready for an inaugural launch tomorrow morning. The Vulcan Centaur rocket will lift off from Cape Canaveral, and it will carry DNA samples and cremated remains that will be sent deep into space.

Date: 1/7/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 3:15

Summary: The Sewing Angels of Hunters Creek bring comfort and care to thousands. WESH 2's Meredith McDonough shows us their skill and dedication to their craft which makes them a WESH 2 CommUNITY Champion

Date: 1/20/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 2:06

Summary: This is video from the driver's perspective while it was happening at UCF. This lead to sheltering in place for all students on campus.

Date: 1/20/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:40

Summary: In Orange County, a 32-year-old teacher is behind bars and is accused of having an inappropriate relationship with a 13-year-old. The student goes to Blankner School in Orlando.

Date: 1/20/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 2:47

Summary: Four Lake County firefighters are off the job this morning. An investigation showed they did not tell anyone they were available to respond to an emergency call.

Date: 1/20/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:53

Summary: These days it's hard enough to make ends meet, let alone try to prepare for future emergencies. Researchers at UCF are hoping to change that.

Date: 1/20/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 3:23

Summary: It's self-care month at the Orlando Science Center. One of the things you can do to take care of yourself is make sure you have ways to calm down your mind. One of those ways could be using sensory devices and as WESH 2's Eric Burriss shows us, for some things, science does come into play when making said devices.

Date: 1/21/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:35

Summary: The Salvation Army's men's shelter opened its doors because of these frigid temperatures. WESH 2's Paola Tristan Arruda talked to people who said they were so happy to get out of the cold.

Date: 1/21/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:37

Summary: Hundreds of people and cars spent the afternoon in Oviedo for the "Cops and Cars" fundraiser. Law enforcement officers got to meet the people they serve while showing off their specialty vehicles. WESH 2's Liv Johnson tells us how it benefits kids all over Central Florida.

Date: 1/27/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:45

Summary: In Commitment 2024, we are just two days away from the New Hampshire primary. As we get closer, former president Donald Trump and Nikki Haley are going at each other.

Date: 1/21/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 2:28

Summary: The owners of a farm in Eustis hope to change the way the next generation eats by teaching them how to plant their own food! The nonprofit is run by a woman many call Momma G. WESH 2's Sanika Dange introduces us to this week's CommUNITY Champion.

Date: 1/16/2024

Newscast: 7a

Length: 1:30

Summary: GOP candidates made their final pitch to Iowa Caucus voters braving the cold, snow, and ice. Our WESH 2 Political Reporter Greg Fox was in Des Moines and tells us the latest.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 7a

Length: 1:09

Summary: In this morning's Commitment 2024 coverage, Tom Keen is the winner of the special election for House District 35.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 7a

Length: 1:32

Summary: We're counting down to the first crew launch from Cape Canaveral this year. Axiom's third all-commercial mission to the International Space Station is set to lift off at 5:11 tonight.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 7a

Length: 1:49

Summary: In Brevard County, the father of a driver killed at a Brightline crossing in Melbourne says more needs to be done to keep people safe.

Date: 1/15/2024

Newscast: 8a

Length: 1:52

Summary: The Iowa Caucuses are the focus of our Commitment 2024 coverage this morning. Republicans in that state will gather tonight for the first contest in the Presidential race.

Date: 1/15/2024

Newscast: 8a

Length: 1:27

Summary: We are only a few days away from the next crew launch from Florida's Space Coast.

Date: 1/16/2024

Newscast: 8a

Length: :50

Summary: Some voters in our area will cast their ballots today. We're talking about the race for House District 35. As WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports, this seat represents eastern parts of Orange and Osceola Counties.

Date: 1/16/2024

Newscast: 8a

Length: 1:30

Summary: Today, prosecutors will try once again, to put a convicted killer on death row. Jury selection starts in the re-sentencing of Bessman Okafor. As WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports, the last time they tried, the sentencing ended with a mistrial because of a juror.

Date: 1/16/2024

Newscast: 8a

Length: 1:42

Summary: The Brevard Zoo is using an advanced medical technique to help rescued green sea turtles get back out in the ocean sooner.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 8a

Length: 1:26

Summary: A nine-year-old boy is dead this morning after being run over by a bus in Orange County.

Date: 1/1/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:10

Summary: Developing this morning in Marion County, one man is in critical condition after he was shot by deputies. They say this all started because he was firing a gun both inside and outside a home on southwest 19th Avenue in Ocala. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports deputies say this happened after a long standoff.

Date: 1/3/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:30

Summary: A grand jury is declining to recommend charges against deputies involved in a deadly shooting at a Kissimmee Target in 2022. WESH 2's Tony Atkins explains we're expecting to hear from the Sheriff later this morning.



Date: 1/12/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: New from overnight, a man is recovering after getting shot at a home in the Hunter's Creek area. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports detectives say they know who shot him.

Date: 1/12/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: A man is behind bars this morning after troopers say he led them on a chase in a stolen Mercedes that caused two separate crashes. Jonathon Nicola now faces multiple charges. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports this started in Kissimmee and ended in Orange County where Nicola was arrested.

Date: 1/10/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: Orlando police are still looking for the person who shot and killed someone in a downtown parking garage over the weekend. The victim's family says 35-year-old Terry Shawn Rivers was a father of five. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports, his family says they're trying to cope with what happened.

Date: 1/8/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:20

Summary: Orlando police are investigating after someone was shot and killed in a downtown parking garage early Sunday morning. WESH 2's Bob Hazen explains this happened yesterday right around the time a lot of bars were closing.

Date: 1/8/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:30

Summary: Back to that breaking news. Ocala police have arrested the man accused in the Christmas weekend shooting at Paddock Mall. 40 year old Albert Shell Jr. is in custody on charges related to that shooting. WESH 2's Tony Atkins is live at Ocala Police Headquarters. Tony, this man was on the run for over two weeks.

Date: 1/22/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 2:00

Summary: An investigation is shutting down part of East Colonial Drive in Orlando. This is at the intersection of Old Cheney Highway near the Executive Airport. WESH 2's Bob Hazen is live from the scene and tells us part of the investigation is happening in the Best Buy parking lot.

Date: 1/25/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: Winter Park police want homeowners to be mindful of their safety after a string of burglaries. The department says there have been eight break-ins reported in the past three weeks. WESH 2's Tony Atkins is at the Winter Park Police Department this morning with the surveillance video police want you to see.

Date: 1/26/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:20

Summary: Right now, police and deputies in Lake County are still looking for two girls who were reported missing. Deputies believe Tillie and Natalia Williams may have been taken from their foster home on Campanero Drive in Sorrento. WESH 2's Tony Atkins explains the foster parent is the one who alerted deputies.

Date: 1/31/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: Happening now, Orlando Police are looking for the person who shot three people at an apartment complex on Mercy Drive. The shooting happened around 1:30 yesterday afternoon. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports, police haven't released any information about the suspect.

Date: 1/2/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:28

Summary: A man is dead after Marion County deputies say he led them on a chase, crashing into a deputy's cruiser, and then ramming right through a building.

Date: 1/2/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:15

Summary: A proposed project in unincorporated Volusia County is headed to county council for a vote.

Date: 1/2/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:21

Summary: Florida lawmakers get back to work next week, with big plans for some new laws.

Date: 1/2/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:47

Summary: We're in the thick of cold and flu season. Now there's more to worry about when it comes to the stubborn winter sicknesses.

Date: 1/2/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:20

Summary: Experts consider last year a rough one for home buyers. But this year, the Federal Reserve is expected to cut interest rates. Reporter Christopher Salas asked real estate industry experts what this means for you.

Date: 1/2/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:49

Summary: American muscle cars, 50's classics, hot rods, and more have made their way from across the nation to Osceola County.

Date: 1/2/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:52

Summary: One of the candidates in a local state House race is the target of a new political attack ad. It claims she supports Florida's abortion ban with no exceptions for rape or incest.

Date: 1/5/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:10

Summary: It's unusual when the FBI gets involved in a case where a teacher is accused of having sex with a former student. But that's where one local teacher finds herself now. Marie-Jo Gordo faces a federal indictment. Gordo is a teacher at a Charter School in Orange County and as WESH 2's Michelle Meredith reports, the criminal complaint leaves little to the imagination.

Date: 1/8/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:33

Summary: The man accused of shooting and killing an Ocala man at the Paddock Mall, just days before Christmas, is now in custody.

Date: 1/8/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:03

Summary: Orlando city leaders are signing off on a measure to allow penalties for people who block city sidewalks.

Date: 1/8/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:34

Summary: It was a flawless inaugural launch of United Launch Alliance's Vulcan rocket from the Cape early this morning.

Date: 1/8/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:21

Summary: There's been a lot of infrastructure changes in Osceola County; it's one of our fastest growing counties.

Date: 1/8/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:56

Summary: Both sides will be back in court tomorrow in the case against a long-time Orange County Civil Rights attorney.

Date: 1/8/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:05

Summary: Florida lawmakers begin their regular session tomorrow tackling a range of problems and a new state budget.

Date: 1/9/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:35

Summary: The weather has calmed down but it's a little too late for some travelers. I spoke with one woman who's flight was all out canceled. Now she's not leaving till after 1 o'clock tomorrow.

Date: 1/9/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:34

Summary: A man was hit and killed while riding his bicycle in Marion County. The driver, accused of hitting him, is facing charges tonight. As WESH 2's Dave McDaniel explains, she's accused of drinking before getting behind the wheel.

Date: 1/9/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:51

Summary: A law is still pending the outcome of a Florida Supreme Court decision while Florida already has some of the strictest abortion laws in the nation, this bill would ban abortions from the moment of fertilization

Date: 1/9/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:56

Summary: We'll have to wait a little longer before NASA astronauts return to the moon. Today, the agency announced the next two missions for the Artemis program will be pushed back.

Date: 1/9/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:42

Summary: Children in Central Florida can now get free counseling thanks to the Mental Health Association.

Date: 1/9/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:46

Summary: Tonight Brevard County leaders take a pivotal step towards pedestrian safety.

Date: 1/9/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:21

Summary: It was a sad day when a local animal shelter caught fire in 2021. The Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando lost over a dozen cats in the blaze.

Date: 1/10/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:00

Summary: One person is dead and three others are in the hospital tonight after their car and a Brightline train crashed in Brevard County.

Date: 1/10/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:26

Summary: Now to Flagler County where sheriff's deputies and fire fighters sprang into action to save a family trapped in their car.

Date: 1/10/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:34

Summary: Central Florida's busiest intersections carry a mountain of cars, tens of thousands daily.

Date: 1/10/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:03

Summary: The United States Department of Defense has awarded Osceola County up to 289-million dollars.

Date: 1/10/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:19

Summary: Orlando Magic players spent the afternoon in Kissimmee to help unveil renovations of a neighborhood park and basketball court.

Date: 1/12/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:35

Summary: Deputies are identifying the woman killed in a shooting in Marion County this afternoon. 47-year-old Milagros Guzman Lopez was shot and killed in a shopping plaza near Marion Oaks Boulevard and Marion Oaks Drive. But deputies still haven't identified the suspect. WESH 2's Hayley Crombleholme spoke with people in the area who said they heard it when it happened.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast:10p

Length: 1:30

Summary: Parents are mad tonight after State Attorney Andrew Bain announced no charges will be filed against a pastor at their children's school. Those parents say the pastor hit their children with a belt in front of other students. WESH 2's Luana Munoz is live at the courthouse tonight, and Luana the parents say the fight isn't over.

Date: 1/22/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:22

Summary: A man is behind bars tonight. Police say he's the one who shot and killed an Orlando father of five two weeks ago.

Date: 1/22/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:40

Summary: The Mount Dora City Council is suspending their city manager with pay and plans to take a vote to remove him from his position.

Date: 1/22/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:39

Summary: Last year, Volusia County beaches saw the highest number of drownings since the late 90's.

Date: 1/22/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:38

Summary: The Olympic Marathon Trials are less than two weeks away, and in case you haven't heard, they're happening here in the City Beautiful.

Date: 1/22/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:58

Summary: Former President Donald Trump is in Laconia, New Hampshire tonight. He's polling ahead of former South Carolina Governor and former Ambassador Nikki Haley, while enjoying endorsements from former candidate Vivek Ramaswamy and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis.

Date: 1/23/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: :30

Summary: Developing tonight, a man, who was wanted in Polk County in connection with the deaths of a 20-year-old missing woman and a person at a homeless camp, was taken into custody. Deputies say they were following several leads when 26 year-old Enrique Martinez walked down the sidewalk and then ran into the woods when he saw law enforcement; he eventually surrendered.

Date: 1/28/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:30

Summary: One person is dead and two officers are in the hospital after police responded to a domestic incident in Palm Bay. This all started around 2:00 this afternoon at a home on Forgal Avenue. That's near I-95 and Malabar Road. WESH 2's Paola Tristan Arruda is live from police headquarters with the details.

Date: 1/28/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:40

Summary: Today's incident hasn't just rattled the Palm Bay Police Department, but the community is also in shock. WESH 2's Liv Johnson spoke with neighbors about the shooting.

Date: 1/29/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:30

Summary: Two police officers are recovering and four people, including this suspect, are dead after a shooting in Palm Bay. We have team coverage tonight as we find out more from this developing investigation. WESH 2's Liv Johnson is in Palm Bay and Hayley Crombleholme is in Orlando tonight. First, we start with Liv who tells us what led up to this tragedy and why police say one man is responsible for all of the violence.

Date: 1/30/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:30

Summary: One person is dead and two others injured after a shooting on Mercy Drive in Orlando. Police have still not released any information on the suspect. It happened at an apartment complex that has had shootings before. WESH 2's Hayley Crombleholme spoke with city and county commissioners about what's being done to make the area safer.

Date: 2/25/2024

Newscast: 5a/6a

Length: 3:12

Summary: One Central Florida family turned tragedy to triumph. When 19 year old Kaliegh Ottis was killed in a crash in 2013, her parents decided to honor her memory by starting a foundation.

Date: 2/25/2024

Newscast: 5a/6a/7a

Length: 1:05

Summary: In Brevard County, this Merritt Island man is in jail. He accused of shooting at deputies while they chased him. 47-year-old Nickolaos Henke is expected to make his first court appearance today on several charges

Date: 2/3/2024

Newscast: 6a

Length: 1:20

Summary: This morning, a Deltona man is in jail.; he's accused of beating his dog with a chain.

Date: 2/29/2024

Newscast: 7a

Length: 1:30

Summary: Back to that Breaking News in Orlando that WESH 2 Reporters Tony Atkins and Bob Hazen have been following all morning. Multiple people are hurt after a shooting in Orlando. This all unfolded overnight in the Rosemont neighborhood. To give you a better idea, the investigation is focused on Iron Wedge Drive on South Lake Orlando Parkway. WESH 2's Bob Hazen and Tony Atkins are on both sides of the entrances to Iron Wedge. We begin with Bob Hazen who tells us one person has died.

Date: 2/7/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:10

Summary: Right now on Sunrise, two men are dead; this after two different law enforcement agencies shot and killed them.

Date: 2/7/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:10

Summary: One happened in Altamonte Springs. The first happened in a neighborhood off Montgomery Road, south of State Road 434. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports police say they had to shoot the man because he had a rifle.



Date: 2/7/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:05

Summary: The Florida Department of Law Enforcement is also looking into a separate case. Orange County Deputies shot and killed a man who they say charged at them. That shooting happened in the middle of the day at a home on Davison Avenue, near Lee Road and Edgewater Drive. WESH 2's Tony Atkins tells us this wasn't the first time deputies were called to this house.

Date: 2/15/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: :35

Summary: Orlando Police are working to get more information after someone was shot on Willow Run Road, just off of Silver Star. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports police have been out there for hours.

Date: 2/29/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:30

Summary: Orlando police are ten hours into a deadly shooting investigation. Officers were called to the Rosemont neighborhood at 11 last night and say they found multiple victims. All morning long, both entrances to Iron Wedge Drive, along South Lake Orlando Parkway, are blocked. WESH 2's Tony Atkins has been at the east entrance all morning and reports on the latest updates.

Date: 2/5/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: :49

Summary: The Orlando City Council is set to make a vote today focused on making streets safer.

Date: 3/1/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: The search for 13-year-old Madeline Soto continues, and this morning, we know more about why police arrested a man as part of their search. Stephan Sterns is in the Orange County Jail. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports it all started because of photos and videos police found on his phone.

Date: 3/1/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: A man is in jail this morning after a shootout ended with seven people getting shot and one of them dying at the scene. We first told you about this shooting yesterday on Sunrise. WESH 2's Tony Atkins has been covering this story for us and reports that police are still working to gather more details.

Date: 3/4/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:10

Summary: Happening now, police are looking for the shooter who killed a woman outside of the Central Florida Fair. 35-year-old Veronica Ramirez went to the hospital but didn't survive. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports investigators are offering a 5-thousand-dollar reward in this case.

Date: 3/12/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: Back to that breaking news. A security guard was attacked while on duty at the Park Central Apartments; just off John Young Parkway and Holden Ave. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports the Orlando Police Department is searching for the suspect.

Date: 3/13/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: This morning, the prime suspect in the murder, of 13-year-old Madeline Soto, is facing dozens of new charges. Those charges include sexual battery on children, lewd molestation, and 40 counts of unlawful possession of materials depicting sexual performance by a child. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports prosecutors now say the evidence shows Sterns abused a child, as far back as 2019.

Date: 3/15/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:30

Summary: A 16 year old is in custody after deputies say he pulled out a gun in front of hundreds of people at New Smyrna Beach. This happened yesterday afternoon, at 4:45. WESH 2's Tony Atkins is at the Volusia County Sheriff's office where he reports this all started because of a fight.

Date: 3/21/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: But first, we start in Orange County where a man was shot and killed early this morning. This happened near the intersection of Pine Hills Road and North Lane near the Rosemont area. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports on the search to find the shooter.

Date: 3/1/2024

Newscast: 8a

Length: 1:30

Summary: This week, parents in Osceola County are getting new alerts, letting them know if their child is absent from school. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports, those news alerts are going out early.

Date: 3/25/2024

Newscast: 8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: We start with that breaking news. Police are responding to a shooting on 24th Street and Lee Street in Orange County. WESH 2's Tony Atkins joins us now and Tony one person is hurt.

Date: 3/28/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:05

Summary: This morning, a man accused of killing an Orange County high school football star, is in jail. Investigators say Dexter Rentz was an innocent victim, caught in the middle of a gang shooting and as WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports it's been almost 4 years since this happened.

### **WESH 2 NEWS on CW18 – PERSONAL PUBLIC SAFETY**

Date: 1/27/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:48

Summary: This morning, these little girls, Tillie and Natalia, are safe. They were found in Louisiana yesterday after being taken from their foster home in Lake County.

Date: 1/27/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:29

Summary: It's been almost three months since flames gutted the historic Florida Theater in Bunnell.

Date: 1/27/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:18

Summary: Governor Ron DeSantis is recommending millions of dollars for a new Semiconductor Institute in Florida.

Date: 1/27/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:18

Summary: WESH 2's Megan Mellado explains how it could change the future of the tech industry.

Date: 1/27/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 2:28

Summary: It is self-care month at the Orlando Science Center. One of the ways you can take care of yourself is by knowing how to express your feelings.

Date: 1/28/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 2:30

Summary: Rolex 24 is still underway at Daytona International Speedway this morning.

Date: 1/28/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 2:30

Summary: So many of us remember information by hearing stories. As WESH 2's Sheldon Dutes shows us, one woman is helping local non-profit leaders know how to tell their stories and succeed in carrying out their mission.

Date: 1/2/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: After a tragic shooting at the Paddock Mall, two days before Christmas, there have been vigils to remember the victim and calls for changes to gun laws. Ocala Police are still searching for the shooter. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports this week the Police department is adding a therapy session to help the community heal.

Date: 1/3/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:22

Summary: Later this morning, we're expecting to hear from the Osceola County Sheriff after a grand jury decided not to recommend charges against deputies in a deadly shooting back in 2022. The shooting happened in the parking lot of a Kissimmee Target store. WESH 2's Tony Atkins explains, the grand jury will release their findings.

Date: 1/4/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: A former juror in a high-profile murder case will be back in court for her own hearing today. WESH 2's Tony Atkins explains the judge gave clear instructions to stay silent in this case.

Date: 1/9/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: The man accused in the deadly Paddock Mall shooting is set to go before a judge for the first time since his arrest. Albert Shell, Jr. is in custody, more than two weeks after the shooting. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports police are crediting community tips to get them to this point.

Date: 1/11/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: :55

Summary: A crash between a car and Brightline train ended with a man dead and three of his passengers in the hospital. This happened yesterday afternoon in Melbourne. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports police are still trying to figure out what happened.

Date: 1/11/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:20

Summary: An Orlando civil rights attorney should learn today if he'll be suspended, from practicing law. WESH 2's Bob Hazen is at the Orange County Courthouse with the accusations that led to the Florida Bar scrutinizing that attorney.

Date: 1/16/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:20

Summary: Today, prosecutors will try once again, to put a convicted killer on death row. Jury selection starts in the re-sentencing of Bessman Okafor. As WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports, the last time they tried sentencing ended with a mistrial because of a juror.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: A nine-year-old boy is dead this morning after being run over by a bus in Orange County. It happened at an apartment complex off the 408 in the Waterford Lakes area yesterday afternoon. WESH 2's Bob Hazen tells us the boy crawled under the bus.

Date: 1/18/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:30

Summary: Any minute now, State Attorney Andrew Bain is expected to give an update in a case that his office claims will be of public interest. It comes just hours after Bain announced an Orlando pastor will not be charged following a child abuse investigation at a private school. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports the pastor is accused of hitting 16 children with a belt.

Date: 1/22/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: Breaking out of Volusia County this morning, firefighters rush to a home in Daytona Beach. Someone in that home died in a fire earlier this morning. Crews responded to Madison Avenue, just off Ridgewood Avenue it's about a mile north of Bethune-Cookman University. That's where WESH 2's Tony Atkins join us LIVE.

Date: 1/23/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: The man accused of shooting and killing a father of five in downtown Orlando will be in court later today. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports from the Orange County Jail where Aaron Willis is in custody on charges connected to that deadly shooting.

Date: 1/24/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: The Volusia County School Board isn't ready to move forward with a proposal that would allow officials to search students during class hours. WESH 2's Tony Atkins joins us live in studio this morning and tells us this is being met with some pushback

Date: 1/25/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: Today, we could find out if the man accused of shooting and killing three people, including a local news reporter is fit to stand trial. Keith Moses is scheduled to face a judge this afternoon. WESH 2's Bob Hazen tell us he was a no show at his hearing last month.

Date: 1/29/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:20

Summary: Two police officers are recovering this morning after a shootout with a man in Palm Bay. That man is now dead but investigators say he killed one person, before they could take him down. WESH 2's Bob Hazen is at the Palm Bay Police Headquarters with how it all started.

Date: 1/29/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: :50

Summary: A man accused of killing two people is in custody. Investigators found both victims dead inside a home over the weekend. As WESH 2's Tony Atkins tells us, deputies say they didn't have to go far to find the accused killer.

Date: 1/31/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:25

Summary: Happening today, a California teen is expected to face a judge right here in Seminole County. He's accused of threatening a mass shooting at a mosque in Sanford. WESH 2's Bob Hazen explains the suspect was just brought here to Central Florida yesterday.

Date: 1/12/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:35

Summary: Melbourne Police are identifying the victims killed after a Brightline train crashed into their car. 54-year-old Michael Anthony Degasperi and 52-year-old Lisa Ann Batchelder died in that crash. It happened earlier this afternoon in the area of W.H. Jackson Street and U.S. 1. This is the second day this week that a Brightline train hit a car at this intersection. WESH 2's Paola Tristan Arruda was there as crews worked to remove the car from under the train.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: :30

Summary: Three Seminole County schools will reopen tomorrow after a water main break kept students home. Officials say issues have been resolved, so students can return to Millennium Middle School, Midway Elementary, and Midway Safe Harbor. A boil water notice remains in effect in the area, so the schools will have bottled water on hand tomorrow.

Date: 1/23/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:30

Summary: Melbourne is taking a closer look at rail crossing safety after three people were killed in just a few days earlier this month. The city council spent a portion of tonight's meeting discussing what steps have been taken in the last few weeks and what more needs to be done. WESH 2's Hayley Crombleholme was there for the discussion.

Date: 1/29/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: :40

Summary: All lanes of the Beachline are open now near Innovation Way after being closed for hours today. Two cars and two semi-trucks crashed and burned, causing the traffic issues and major damage. A driver of one of the semi's swerved to avoid traffic around 8 this morning in an area about 20 miles east of I-4. He jackknifed, hit a concrete barrier, blocking all westbound lanes. That's when a tanker truck hit him and both trucks caught fire. The semi-truck driver is in the hospital recovering. The fire did damage part of the road and crews spent much of the day cleaning it up and making sure it was safe for travel. Westbound traffic was diverted off of 528 to State Road 520 while they worked.

Date: 1/30/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:05

Summary: One person is dead and two others injured after a shooting on Mercy Drive in Orlando. Police have not released any information on the suspect.

Date: 1/30/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:23

Summary: Chopper 2 flew over our local waterways today and caught this video of crowds of manatees keeping warm.

Date: 2/19/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:20

Summary: This weekend's weather forced the cancellation of the Daytona 500 festivities but today is a new day! Race officials are hoping to get the race going in just hours under better conditions. WESH 2's Tony Atkins is live at Daytona International Speedway and tells us the parking lots are opening up now.

Date: 2/19/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:05

Summary: Today, the ban on new bars and clubs in downtown Orlando could be extended. The City Council is looking at making the moratorium last longer. WESH 2's Bob Hazen is live downtown where city leaders say, they need more time to figure out a plan.

Date: 2/20/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: New from overnight, Orlando firefighters rushed to put out flames at a trailer where the 408 meets I-4. WESH 2's Bob Hazen is live downtown. Bob, you talked to someone who assisted with helping people to safety.

Date: 2/21/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: Police in Ocala are out investigating that fiery crash that happened around 8:30 last night on southeast 36th Avenue and 15th Street. That's where we find WESH 2's Tony Atkins who tells us police have been there for hours.

Date: 2/21/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: In Orlando, the flames are out at a car dealership on West Colonial and Mercy Drive, but firefighters are still on the lot. We want to get right out to WESH 2's Bob Hazen who tells us fire crews were called out there around 2 o'clock this morning.



Date: 2/22/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:13

Summary: Today marks one year since these three people were all gunned down and we remember them, nine-year-old T'yonna Major, TV News Reporter Dylan Lyons, and 38-year-old Nathacha Augustin. The killings all happened over a span of just hours. WESH 2's Bob Hazen explains 19-year-old Keith Moses was charged in the shooting spree.

Date: 2/23/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: This morning, the search continues for the driver who fled after hitting a 13-year-old girl who was riding her bike. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports police are now offering a reward in this case.

Date: 2/23/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:20

Summary: The family of a woman who died after getting hit by lightning outside a Seminole County school is suing the county and the district. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports this happened nearly two years ago.

Date: 2/23/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:35

Summary: More than a dozen people have been arrested in connection to a drive by shooting in Seminole County; it happened more than a year ago. That's when 31-year-old Princess Tolliver was killed. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports this all happened in January of 2023 and stemmed from a public dispute between two rappers.

Date: 2/27/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: It's business as usual this morning at Orlando International Airport. However, yesterday, a police investigation made things a little uneasy for travelers. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports this was due to a suspicious bag.

Date: 2/28/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:05

Summary: Investigators are working to get more information after a small plane crashed while trying to land at the Orlando Sanford International Airport. Three people were on board when this all happened last night. WESH 2's Bob Hazen tells us the plane ran right into another one on the runway.

Date: 2/24/2024

Newscast: 5a/6a/7a

Length: 1:50

Summary: A warning this weekend for parents to keep a close eye on their kids

Date: 2/5/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: :49

Summary: The Orlando City Council is set to make a vote today focused on making streets safer.

Date: 2/13/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:58

Summary: A proposed law that would give kids free swimming lessons is quickly making its way through the Florida legislature. WESH 2's Pamela Comme tells us about several bills hoping to prevent drownings across the state.

Date: 2/7/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:45

Summary: Kids sports, it's supposed to be fun watching them kick the soccer ball or run the bases. But these days youth games have become intense, and some say you can blame the parents. WESH 2's Tony Atkins spoke with a local referee who says some moms and dads are spoiling sports for everyone.

Date: 2/7/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:40

Summary: In the month of February, all across Central Florida, we are highlighting school crossing guards who go above and beyond the call of duty. This morning, I'm introducing a crossing guard who works at multiple schools and took the job after a career in law enforcement.

Date: 2/14/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:55

Summary: In the month of February, we are highlighting school crossing guards across Central Florida who go above and beyond the call of duty. We want to bring in Traffic Expert Meaghan Mackey. This week she is introducing us to a crossing guard in Lake County. This week we are meeting Jonette Dreger who works near Sawgrass Bay Elementary School.

Date: 3/5/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: We want to get back to that breaking news in Orlando where parts of East Michigan Street are flooded in the Conway area; it's at the intersection of Conway Gardens Road. That's where we find WESH 2's Bob Hazen live. Bob, we understand this area flooded because a driver hit a fire hydrant.

Date: 3/6/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: :55

Summary: For the second morning in a row, we have a situation where a driver hit a fire hydrant; this time, in Deltona. That's where we find WESH 2's Tony Atkins; authorities are saying that driver also hit a power pole.

Date: 3/6/2024

Newscast: 7a./8a/9a

Length: 1:35

Summary: "New documents are shedding more light on what investigators say 13-year-old Madeline Soto endured, before she was killed. They say, the prime suspect in her case, sexually abused her going back at least 2 years. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports a memorial to Madeline, is growing.

Date: 3/7/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:35

Summary: The 13-year-old's body was found on Friday and her mom's boyfriend, is the prime suspect in the murder. WESH 2's Bob Hazen is at Maddie's school, where he reports the ceremony last night was for the people who went to class with her every day.

Date: 3/8/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: We want to get back to that breaking news. A massive fire gutted a mobile home off Dean Road near Colonial Drive. WESH 2'S Tony Atkins has been at the scene this morning and shows us the devastation.

Date: 3/11/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:10

Summary: Today, the City of Orlando will look at expanding a program that officials say, has cut down on shootings. It's called the community violence intervention initiative. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports that program could be going into more neighborhoods soon.

Date: 3/12/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: Police near UCF say they need your help finding the person responsible for setting a fire inside an apartment complex. They say this happened yesterday morning at the Pointe at Central Apartments. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports police had to close off parts of the complex.

Date: 3/13/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: The Soto case is causing changes to Orange County Public Schools' attendance policy. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports notifications will now be going out earlier and these changes go into effect in just a few weeks.

Date: 3/14/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: The trial of a woman, who police say ran over a family and killed a toddler, should start back up today. The crash happened on Maitland Boulevard in 2019. WESH 2's Bob Hazen is at the Seminole County Courthouse where that trial was stopped last week.

Date: 3/14/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:20

Summary: The violence in Haiti is especially concerning for Haitian Americans here in Central Florida who have family there. Local groups are working to help Haitians both here and abroad. WESH 2's Tony Atkins tell us the governor is also reacting to this.

Date: 3/15/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:24

Summary: This morning, Holly Hill's Police Chief has resigned and other top officers, are suspended. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports this came after some kind of inappropriate incident.

Date: 3/18/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:30

Summary: New this morning, a fire ripped through a well-known restaurant, in Volusia County. It happened at Pappa's Drive-In and Family Restaurant, in New Smyrna Beach. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports firefighters aren't sure yet how it started.

Date: 3/20/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: State officials will try again today to bring Floridians stuck in Haiti back home. WESH 2's Tony Atkins joins us live from Orlando Sanford International Airport. Tony, they say two return flights were supposed to make it yesterday but couldn't.

Date: 3/21/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:25

Summary: Today more Americans, who've been stuck in Haiti because of the violence in that country, are expected to land in Central Florida. We were there when the first plane arrived last night. WESH 2's Bob Hazen is back at the airport this morning and reports today's flights could see delays because of complications in Haiti.

Date: 3/22/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:30

Summary: Back to that breaking news. Firefighters are working to knock out a fire in a building next to Full Sail University. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports this is on University Boulevard in Orange County at an old auto shop.

Date: 3/25/2024

Newscast: 7a

Length: 1:06

Summary: More Americans are back home this morning. This comes after they escaped violence in Haiti. WESH 2's Tony Atkins is at the Orlando International Airport where the state is stepping in at all levels to help.

Dat: 3/26/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: Right now, Orange County leaders will decide whether to pay a big bill for the One-Pulse Foundation. The money would pay off the taxes the foundation owes, on a building. WESH 2's Bob Hazen is live in the studio and reports that building was supposed to become a museum to honor the 49 victims of the 2016 nightclub attack.

Date: 3/26/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:10

Summary: This week, parents in Osceola County will be alerted if their child is absent from school. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports these alert times were prompted to change after the disappearance of Madeline Soto.

Date: 3/31/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:35

Summary: Today VFW members in DeLand should have been gathering for their Easter Dinner at post 2380. But a fire just over a week ago canceled those plans. WESH 2's Hayley Crombleholme spoke with the post commander about what's being done to bring the veterans back together.

## WESH 2 NEWS on CW18 - ECONOMY

Date: 1/24/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:25

Summary: A major housing development in East Orange County was shot down. The builder wanted to put nearly 18 hundred homes near Lake Pickett. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports the County Commissioners met until 1 in the morning, before voting it down.

Date: 1/3/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Career search 2024 interview.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: The arts are one of the reasons people love Central Florida and a recent study shows how the community improves if there is art displayed in the area. Joining me now is Marisa Worley, the Development Director at United Arts of Central Florida.

Date: 1/5/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:40

Summary: Belvedere Terminals, the company behind an effort to build a fuel farm in Ormond Beach, is now suing Volusia County. They say the county is singling them out and violating their constitutional rights. WESH 2's Liv Johnson joins us in the studio. Liv, many people who live in Ormond Beach don't want the fuel farm as a neighbor.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:00

Summary: The Zora Neale Hurston Festival Season is in full swing! All month long, Eatonville is celebrating the 133rd birthday of the global literary icon. WESH 2's Senait Gebregiorgis has the lineup of this year's events.

Date: 1/23/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: :45

Summary: Today Orange County held a public hearing in which the Future Land Use Map requested a change. The change is for 1,317 acres north of Lake Pickett Road for community development. However after the proposal, residents expressed their concerns with this project. Some say they feel as if the community isn't right for the location. Other concerns shared with the council regarding the development included possible run off of waste water into Lake Pickett and the lack of affordable housing, among other things. Orange County has not yet come to a decision on the proposal.

Date: 1/29/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: :30

Summary: More money is on its way to Neo City in Osceola County. A 160-million-dollar grant from the United States National Science Foundation was just secured for the innovation hub. The nearly 500-acre technology campus is focused on the semi-conductor industry; that includes the microchips that help power devices like cell phones and cars. This wave of funding will start with a \$15 million-dollar injection. Over the last year and a half, Neo City has secured about half a billion dollars in state and federal funding.

Date: 1/30/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:45

Summary: You will soon be able to explore five new worlds right here in Central Florida. Today, Universal Orlando unveiled some major details about its new theme park, Epic Universe. As WESH 2's Christina Watkins tells us from Chopper 2, Universal says Epic will live up to its name.

Date: 2/14/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a

Length: 1:41

Summary: City leaders in Sanford say they need to take a closer look at future developments as large apartment complexes are becoming more and more popular across Central Florida.

Date: 2/20/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Interview on wage gaps for Black Americans.

Date: 3/27/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: This morning, Disney's plans for an affordable housing development in west Orange County, are moving ahead. Orange County leaders approved the project, after a long meeting. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports that some people say the project is too big!

Date: 3/26/2024

Newscast: 8a

Length: 1:35

Summary: Orange County leaders will decide today if the County will pay a big bill for the One-Pulse Foundation. That money would pay off the taxes the foundation owes on a building. WESH 2's Bob Hazen joins us in studio this morning and tells us that building was supposed to become a museum, honoring the 49 victims of the 2016 nightclub attack.

## WESH 2 News on CW18 – POLITICS

Date: 1/10/2024

Newscast: 7a/8/9a

Length: 1:20

Summary: State lawmakers are back in Tallahassee and abortion is expected to be one of many hot button issues that they plan to consider. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports one of the bills was written to almost ban abortion completely.

Date: 1/16/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: Meanwhile in Florida, some voters in our area will cast their ballots today. We're talking about the race for House District 35. As WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports, this seat represents eastern parts of Orange and Osceola counties.

Date: 1/23/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: Today, Orange County leaders will talk about cutting funding to the agency that markets tourism, in Central Florida. As WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports, some of them want tourist tax money to be spent on other projects.

Date: 1/15/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:55

Summary: Regardless of the weather, many voters say they will still cast their vote today in Iowa. We have been talking about the caucuses for weeks. but what exactly are they? WESH 2's Greg Fox is in Des Moines to explain how the caucuses work.

Date: 1/15/2024

Newscast: 7p

Length: 2:30

Summary: It's less than 1 hour to go until the first voters in the nation file into churches and schools for the Iowa Caucuses. Republicans in Iowa are heading out in frigid temperatures to decide who their nominee will be in the race for the White House. It's officially the coldest caucus day on record for the Hawkeye State. But it's not stopping the top candidates from getting out to get last-minute votes. WESH 2's Political Reporter Greg Fox is live tonight in Iowa from one of those caucus sites.



Date: 1/15/2024

Newscast: 7p

Length: 1:00

Summary: Right now polls are closed in the election for State House District 35. Voters from both Orange and Osceola counties cast their ballots, to choose between a businessman, a former Navy flight officer, and a local school board member. WESH 2's Megan Mellado is live tonight as election officials start to count the votes.

Date: 1/18/2024

Newscast: 7p

Length: :50

Summary: Congress has sent President Joe Biden a short-term spending bill that would avert a looming partial government shutdown and fund federal agencies for over a month. The deal was reached just before tomorrow's deadline. WESH 2's Summer Knowles joins us to break down the 1.66 trillion-dollar deal.

Date: 1/18/2024

Newscast: 7p

Length: :50

Summary: Commitment 2024 takes us to New Hampshire where some polling places are now closed in the GOP Primary. The remaining contenders in the Republican race for the White House are former South Carolina Governor and former United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley and former President Donald Trump. Both are counting on a victory to propel them forward with Florida Governor Ron DeSantis out of the running. WESH 2 News Political Reporter Greg Fox is in New Hampshire and tells us the results are going to start trickling in soon.

Date: 1/5/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:10

Summary: The fight continues for homeowner's rights against their Home Owners Association as WESH 2's Megan Mellado explains, two new bills have been filed to help Floridians know the rules and pay less for any violations.

Date: 1/5/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:20

Summary: Today, a push to put Disney back in power. A state Senator from Orlando wants to kick out the leaders Governor DeSantis handpicked to oversee the area where the theme park sits and put the old ones back in charge. WESH 2's Marlei Martinez explains how that idea gained some traction today.

Date: 1/5/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 3:00

Summary: Is Tom Keen, the darling of the insurance industry, trying to raise your homeowners insurance rates? That's the claim in a new political attack ad targeting the Democratic candidate for State House. We "Get the Facts" from WESH 2 News Political Reporter Greg Fox.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: :45

Summary: Today, the Florida House moved forward with a proposal to restrict the types of flags that can be displayed at government buildings and schools. This would in part, prevent the display of LGBTQ pride flags. A state house subcommittee voted nine to five along party lines to approve the bill.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: :45

Summary: Supporters say the bill prevents "indoctrination" at places such as schools while opponents say it erases members of our community.

Date: 1/23/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:30

Summary: Commitment 2024 brings us several key storylines out of the New Hampshire Primaries tonight. On the Republican side, former President Donald Trump defeated former South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, but she's staying in the race. President Joe Biden wins the Democratic primary, despite keeping his name off the ballot and doing no campaigning in the state. WESH 2 News Political Reporter Greg Fox is live in Manchester, New Hampshire tonight.

Date: 1/29/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: :30

Summary: In Commitment 2024, President Joe Biden is heading to South Florida tomorrow. It is all part of his re-election campaign. In a release from the White House, it says the Commander in Chief will take part in two campaign receptions. One in Palm Beach and another in Miami. Exact locations and times have not yet been released.

Date: 1/30/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: :45

Summary: In Tallahassee, a state Senate committee is moving forward with a proposal loosening the rules for child labor. The bill would allow 16- and 17-year-olds to work as late as midnight when school is scheduled the next day, a change from the current 11 pm limit. 16- and 17-year-olds would also be allowed to work more than eight hours when school is scheduled the next day.

Date: 2/13/2024

Newscast: 7a

Length: 1:15

Summary: All new at 7, the senate just approved a 95-billion-dollar foreign aid package.

Date: 2/14/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a

Length: 1:10

Summary: Congress is in limbo this morning. They are stuck between a House impeachment vote and a foreign aid bill.

Date: 2/5/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: A ban on kids using social media in Florida is moving forward in Tallahassee today. The bill passed in the State House last week. WESH 2's Bob Hazen is following the progress. Bob, Senators will start work on the bill today.

Date: 2/5/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: :55

Summary: Today Orlando's city council is set to make a vote that could bring in hundreds of thousands of grant dollars. The city says the money would go toward making roads safer for everyone. WESH 2's Tony Atkins is live at City Hall. Tony, this is part of the Orlando's "vision zero" plan.

Date: 2/6/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: :55

Summary: The Volusia County Council is set to vote today on a moratorium that could impact plans for a proposed fuel terminal near Ormond Beach. WESH 2's Tony Atkins tells us this moratorium would last most of the year.

Date: 2/6/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:25

Summary: Also today, Orange County's Mayor will try to revive his push, for a higher sales tax. The money raised by it would pay for improving transportation. But as WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports, the idea failed two years ago.

Date: 2/15/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: :45

Summary: A bill on the table to ban kids from social media is facing another Senate committee today. WESH 2's Bob Hazen tells us this is the last hurdle before it goes to the full Senate.

Date: 2/20/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: Today is the last day to register or change party affiliation before next month's primary election. WESH 2's Tony Atkins is live at the Orange County Supervisor of Elections office and tells us voters have much of the day to get registered.

Date: 2/26/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:20

Summary: Today, the Supreme Court will take on laws passed here in the state limiting who and what social media platforms can censor. WESH 2's Bob Hazen spoke to a legal expert about this issue. Bob, this is all surrounding legislation that lawmakers say will protect free speech rights.

Date: 2/13/21024

Newscast: 9a

Length: :57

Summary: The first inflation report of 2024 is out; it gives insight into how inflation and the economy are faring amid high interest rates.

Date: 2/13/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:28

Summary: As many Disney fans in Central Florida already know, going to the park, is expensive!

Date: 2/13/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: A new report is out showing how much car insurance has increased this year and the numbers are pretty shocking! Our Chief National Consumer Correspondent Jeff Rossen is breaking it all down and has ways you can save.

Date: 3/6/2024

Newscast: 7a

Length: 2:00

Summary: Super Tuesday Recap with Amy Lu.

Date: 3/7/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:10

Summary: Crunch time is officially here for state lawmakers; the legislative session wraps up tomorrow. However, there are still some notable bills that have to be signed into law. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports this will be a busy end to the week for the governor and legislature.

Date: 3/18/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:15

Summary: Tomorrow, voters will head to the polls for Florida's spring primary! WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports nearly 300-thousand people are eligible to vote in tomorrow's election.

Date: 3/19/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: The polls opened about two hours ago and before you head out there are some things you need to know. WESH 2's Tony Atkins is at the Supervisor of Elections office. If voters still have their mail-in ballots, they can still vote.

Date: 3/19/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: Now, the question many may be asking is what is up for a vote today? WESH 2's Bob Hazen is live in the studio and reports that a lot of important local topics are on the ballot including a big plan in Maitland, for a new library.

Date: 3/20/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:30

Summary: In Orange County, there was a record low turnout for yesterday's primary. Fewer than 19-percent of registered, eligible voters completed ballots. Officials blame that on the Presidential primary race already being decided, plus the election falling during spring break. But those who did turn out made decisions about some big-ticket items. That includes a brand-new library for Maitland! WESH 2's Bob Hazen is live in Maitland where voters approved spending millions on the project.

Date: 3/5/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Super Tuesday Preview interview with a professor from the University of Central Florida.

Date: 3/6/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:00

Summary: Marc Sandalow Super Tuesday analysis interview.

Date: 3/31/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:55

Newscast: We are getting closer to the Florida Supreme Court deciding on two big ballot amendments. The court has until tomorrow to decide if amendments regarding the use of recreational marijuana and abortion rights will be on the ballot in November.

### WESH 2 NEWS on CW18 - HEALTH

Date: 1/24/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:00

Summary: A new bill filed by a local congressman hopes to make a lifesaving drug used by millions of Americans, more affordable. WESH 2's Summer Knowles has the details on the EPIPEN Act.

Date: 1/11/2024

Newscast: 7p

Length: :45

Summary: A new bill filed by a local congressman hopes to make a lifesaving drug, used by millions of Americans, more affordable. WESH 2's Summer Knowles has the details on the EpiPen Act.

Date: 1/12/2024

Newscast: 7p

Length: :45

Summary: Last week the FDA approved Florida's request to import certain drugs from Canada. It's the first time a state has been authorized to buy lower-cost medications in bulk from abroad. But as Reporter Luana Munoz explains, our neighbors to the north are not all on board with the decision.

Date: 1/23/2024

Newscast: 7p

Length: 3:30

Summary: We first told you last week that more people under the age of 50 are being diagnosed with cancer than ever before. That's according to a report from the American Cancer Society. The report also found that colorectal cancer has become the leading cause of cancer deaths in men under 50, and the second leading cause in women. Chief of Colorectal Surgery for AdventHealth, Dr. Mark Soliman joins us this evening to talk about these findings.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:30

Summary: Self-care is a critical part of your well-being. It includes anything you do to keep yourself healthy, both physically and mentally. But many times, parents have a hard time finding the time and may feel bad about taking it. In tonight's health minute, Reporter Mandy Gaither has tips for mothers on how to overcome feelings of so-called "Mom Guilt."

Date: 1/29/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:30

Summary: If you are experiencing an unusual amount of stress, there are many things you can try to destress your feelings. One common way is stress eating. But it often leads to weight gain, even obesity according to a study published by the National Institutes of Health. Reporter Mandy Gaither has ways to recognize and avoid eating your feelings away.

Date: 1/30/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:30

Summary: Blood is a vital fluid with many different functions in the body. It forms clots to prevent excess blood loss and can help fight infection. Testing blood can also help detect certain conditions. Tonight, Reporter Mandy Gaither is sharing five things your blood can tell you about your health.

Date: 2/18/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 2:24

Summary: A Central Florida millennial is on a mission to raise awareness about Alzheimer's and Dementia. WESH 2's Jason Guy tells us why she started this journey and what we can do right now to protect our future brain health.

Date: 2/24/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 2:05

Summary: A Central Florida school wants parents to keep a close eye on their children this weekend after a 4th grader in Volusia County died as a result of contracting Meningitis.

Date: 2/25/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 2:09

Summary: Thousands came together to advocate for mental health awareness and find comfort in others who experienced loss. The 17th annual "Out of the Darkness" walk raised more than \$118-thousand dollars. WESH 2's Hayley Crombleholme went to Baldwin Park and talked to families who support the cause.

Date: 2/25/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 2:10

Summary: A Volusia County girl, diagnosed with Stage-4 pancreatic cancer last year, was on Chemo by her 10th birthday. She and her family traveled to Arnold Palmer Hospital in Orlando for treatments.

Date: 2/28/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:10

Summary: Four swans at the lake died recently, and scientists think they know why. Two tested positive for bird flu. WESH 2's Tony Atkins tells us the city is keeping a close eye on the flock, especially after the second pair died over the weekend.

Date: 2/14/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Interview regarding Heart Health Month.

Date: 2/15/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:35

Summary: The toll of Alzheimer's touches almost all of us. After a loved one's death, a local millennial is now on a mission to raise awareness about the disease. I spoke to her about how we can all take steps now to protect our future brain health.

Date: 2/28/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Interview on the diversity in medicine.

Date: 3/4/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: :50

Summary: We're beginning to see an increase in measles cases across the state of Florida. The City of Apopka is working to get ahead of it, through a vaccination initiative. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports they're planning to get this up and running very soon.

Date: 3/18/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Teens self-diagnosing mental; conditions interview.

Date: 3/26/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Colorectal cancer awareness interview.

Date: 3/27/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Testing season stress interview.



**WESH 2 NEWS on CW18 - SOCIAL FAMILY**

Date: 1/15/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a

Length: 1:15

Summary: Pappy Kennedy Breakfast.

Date: 1/10/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Ringling Brothers Circus interview.

Date: 1/11/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Daytona Boat Show Interview.

Date: 1/11/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 6:30

Summary: This morning, we're recognizing a decade of dedication to a local neighborhood. Once overlooked, West Lakes is now a shining example of the work being done by this week's WESH 2 CommUNITY Champion: Lift Orlando.

Date: 1/12/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Florida Wedding Expo Interview.

Date: 1/12/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:00

Summary: Critics' Choice Awards Interview.

Date: 1/12/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Family Law interview.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:30

Summary: We have less than a month before the top distance runners in the United States hit the streets of Orlando in a quest to make Team USA, and race in the 2024 Olympics. The 370 runners competing on February 3 need all of us in Central Florida to help make those dreams come true! WESH 2's Sanika Dange joins us with a special guest to explain how we can all get involved.

Date: 1/18/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 5:55

Summary: A farm in Eustis is hoping to change the way the next generation eats by teaching them how to plant their own food! The nonprofit is run by Melissa Goltermann or Momma G, as she is referred to and she showed me all around the Momma G Farms.

Date: 1/24/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: :45

Summary: This week is National School Choice Week. It's the time where parents are figuring out what aspects they appreciate and dislike about their kids' schools and if they want to switch things up. WESH 2 spoke with Shelby Doyle, the Vice President of the National School Choice Awareness Foundation. She says Florida has done a lot to provide new opportunities for schooling but if you are still struggling to decide what type of schools are best talk to your child first.

Date: 1/25/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 5:35

Summary: There are so many non-profit leaders across Central Florida who work tirelessly to make our region a better place to live and work. So many of us remember information by hearing stories or narratives. Ashley Vann makes sure local non-profit leaders know how to tell their stories to help them succeed in carrying out their mission.

Date: 1/26/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Interview with a local actress.

Date: 1/26/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Fire within 5k interview.

Date: 1/29/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Dining in the Dark interview.

Date: 1/29/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:05

Summary: January is self-care month at the Orlando Science Center and one of the ways you can take care of yourself is through aromatherapy. WESH 2's Eric Burris was there to learn the science behind how aromatherapy works. and how long ago the practice dates to.

Date: 1/29/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:40

Summary: This week, the men and women vying to make Team USA in the Marathon at the Paris Olympics will compete here in Orlando. 370 of the best distance runners in the country will take to the streets of Downtown Orlando Saturday trying to make a dream come true before they start racing for Paris. WESH 2's Michelle Imperato found out what it took to make the Olympic trials.

Date: 1/30/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Pro Bowl interview.

Date: 1/31/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:45

Summary: By now you've probably heard that 370 of best distance runners in the country will be in Orlando this week vying to qualify for the United States Olympic marathon team. But you might not know many of these men and women are not professional athletes. We are bringing in Anchor/Reporter Sheldon Dutes who tells us some of the runners are nurses, school teachers, engineers, and there's even a neurologist! I met up with Ben Payne, a commercial airline pilot, Air Force Academy graduate, and father of three young kids who's competing for a spot-on Team USA.

Date: 1/31/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:15

Summary: If you didn't know it, you are a critical part of the who will make Team USA and head to the Olympics in Paris to compete in the Marathon. The trials are happening in Orlando this Saturday. WESH 2's Sheldon Dutes is joining us now and tells us the city and athletes say they need spectators. Jason and Meredith there are plenty of spots where people can have a front row seat as the elites are racing to Paris.

Date: 1/31/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:00

Summary: *America's Got Talent* virtual auditions interview.

Date: 1/11/2024

Newscast: 7p

Length: 4:30

Summary: Jason Siegel, from the Greater Orlando Sports Commission, joins us in the studio tonight. He tells us some of the greatest athletes in the world are coming to the City Beautiful next month for the Olympic Marathon Trials.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 7p

Length: 4:00

Summary: We have less than a month before the top distance runners in the United States hit the streets of Orlando in a quest to make Team USA, with dreams of racing in Paris in the 2024 Olympics. The 370 runners competing on February 3 need Central Floridians to help make those dreams come true! Jon Hughes with Track Shack is here to talk about the community aspect of this race and how we can all get involved.

Date: 1/26/2024

Newscast: 7p

Length: 1:00

Summary: This weekend historians and best-selling authors are all gathering for a conference in Winter Haven. But the guest of honor is 107-year-old United States Navy Veteran Bill Monfort. Monfort was stationed at Pearl Harbor, and he survived the attack. I had a chance to speak with the hero this afternoon.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: :45

Summary: If you are looking to tie the knot, you can do so at the Historic Osceola County Courthouse. The Clerk of Court is officially accepting applications for a group wedding at the courthouse on Valentine's Day. It's the oldest courthouse in the state of Florida. The clerk tells us the average cost of a wedding in 2024 is expected to be about 33-thousand dollars. The ceremony and reception are free, you just have to pay for the marriage license.

Date: 1/20/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:35

Summary: Hundreds of people and cars were in Oviedo this afternoon for the annual "Cops and Cars" fundraiser. Local law enforcement agencies were also on hand building community relations and showing off some of their specialty vehicles. WESH 2's Liv Johnson was at the event and tells us how it benefits kids all over Central Florida.

Date: 1/28/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:20

Summary: No matter which team finished at the top, racing fans ultimately came to Rolex 24 for the energy, atmosphere, and overall fun. WESH 2's Senait Gebregiorgis spoke with some people who stayed up through the night to watch the iconic 24 hours of racing.

Date: 1/29/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 2:30

Summary: At the end of this week, the men and women marathoners with their sights set on Team USA will compete here in Orlando. 370 of the best distance runners in the country will try to make their Olympic dreams come true. Before the race in Paris, I found out what it took to make it to the Olympic trials here in Orlando.

Date: 1/30/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: :30

Summary: Spring Break is less than two months away and Volusia County is hosting a camp for kids! The spring break camp helps students get creative and explore their passions. It runs March 25th to the 28th at DeLand Boy Scouts Hut on Frankfort Avenue. You can register by scanning the QR code at the bottom of your screen. The camp is available for kids aged 5 to 12 years old.

Date: 2/3/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 2:13

Summary: We are pumped to be here along the race route for the Olympic Marathon team trials. Behind us is where thousands of people are expected to turn out for this history-making race.

Date: 2/4/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 1:24

Summary: It's the last day of MegaCon Orlando. Comics, cosplay, and pop culture will take over the Orange County Convention Center.

Date: 2/5/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:08

Summary: Creating 3-D art with nothing but one sheet of paper. It sounds like magic, but it's just science! First Warning Meteorologist Eric Burriss brings us to the Orlando Science Center to learn more about the ancient art of origami.

Date: 2/13/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:58

Summary: A proposed law that would give kids free swimming lessons is quickly making its way through the Florida legislature. WESH 2's Pamela Comme tells us about several bills hoping to prevent drownings across the state.

Date: 2/17/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 3:27

Summary: The Orlando Science Center's nature and conservation exhibit features hundreds of animals within immersive habitats. In today's "Science of It," Meteorologist Eric Burriss spent some quality time with one of their cutest and fluffiest residents, a Chinchilla.

Date: 2/18/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 2:38

Summary: A Central Florida organization, that is committed to helping underserved kids, is celebrating a big accomplishment this week!

Date: 2/25/2024

Newscast: 5a/6a/7a

Length: 2:55

Summary: This morning, we are introducing you to a man who made Olympic history. As WESH 2 celebrates Black History Month, Stewart Moore takes us to Gainesville to meet the first Black swimmer to win an Olympic gold medal and coach Team USA Swimming at the games.

Date: 2/14/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a

Length: 1:53

Summary: Volusia County officials hired an engineering firm to help protect the coastline.

Date: 2/15/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a

Length: 1:31

Summary: It's Navy Week in Central Florida. But if you've never heard of Navy Week, you're not alone.

Date: 2/15/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a

Length: 1:23

Summary: We are just days away from the Daytona 500. The NASCAR race draws in thousands of fans to Central Florida each year.

Date: 2/15/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a

Length: 1:40

Summary: What better day to say "I do" than on the day of love? Several couples tied the knot yesterday in a group wedding at the Orange County Courthouse.

Date: 2/22/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a

Length: 1:00

Summary: Today, is looking like another historic day for space exploration! This afternoon, the U.S. is set to land its first spacecraft on the moon for the first time in 50 years. WESH 2's Tony Atkins joins us live and tells us this mission, without a crew, is a commercial moon landing.

Date: 2/13/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:47

Summary: After a commercial U.S. mission to the moon's surface failed last month, another is set to launch from the Kennedy Space Center this week.

Date: 2/14/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:05

Summary: It's Valentine's Day, but it's also a big day for racing fans. Today is the kickoff for Daytona Speedweeks leading up to the Daytona 500 this weekend. WESH 2's Tony Atkins tells us about the preparations underway.

Date: 2/17/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:45

Summary: It's the most popular event of the year at the Orlando Science Center. The annual "Spark STEM Fest" kicks off today! As Meteorologist Eric Burris explains, this is all about getting kids interested in careers in STEM.

Date: 2/17/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:20

Summary: A conservation spectacle is coming to your screen today right here on WESH 2. *Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom Protecting the Wild*, has a special episode focusing on Florida! It airs this morning at 9:30. WESH 2's Jason Guy spoke with the show's host.

Date: 2/18/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:29

Summary: The rain and gloomy weather didn't dim the spirits at the "Love is Love" pride festival in DeLand. WESH 2's Paola Tristan Arruda takes us to the festivities.

Date: 2/18/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 3:56

Summary: Where there is unity, there is strength. That's part of the foundation for the National Pan-Hellenic Council, also known as the Divine Nine. They are the nine historically Black sororities and fraternities. Millions of people, from around the world, are part of these organizations, like me and some of my colleagues. I sat down with some of Central Florida's D-9 members who explain service is a lifetime commitment.

Date: 2/26/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:10

Summary: We are just days away from a big launch from our Space Coast. Crew 8 is taking a trip to the International Space Station this Friday. WESH 2's Tony Atkins tells us they'll be away for several months.

Date: 2/5/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:02

Summary: A ban on kids using social media in Florida is moving forward in Tallahassee today.

Date: 2/5/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:20

Summary: A local animal shelter opened its doors to dozens of dogs in need. Now they're hoping you'll do the same. As WESH 2's Paola Tristan Arruda explains, the Marion County Animal Shelter was already overcrowded before taking in 56 new dogs.

Date: 2/6/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Interview on the Second Harvest "Field to Feast" event.

Date: 2/6/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:50

Summary: Our Black History Month coverage continues this morning. Art has the unique power of bringing people together by helping us learn about ourselves and cultures that are different from our own. We are bringing in WESH 2's Sheldon Dutes who tells us a local artist hopes he can unite several generations through his works of art.



Date: 2/6/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Interview on the opening of the Florida Prepaid Enrollment.

Date: 2/7/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Celebration of Arts interview.

Date: 2/7/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Puppy Bowl XX interview.

Date: 2/13/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:58

Summary: A proposed law that would give kids free swimming lessons is quickly making its way through the Florida legislature. WESH 2's Pamela Comme tells us about several bills hoping to prevent drownings across the state.

Date: 2/13/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:58

Summary: Black history to be taught year-round is one of the core concepts behind a local organization's aim at making sure this specific type of American history is better understood and never forgotten. WESH 2's Summer Knowles takes us inside the Black History Project.

Date: 2/14/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:30

Summary: The coffee industry is brewing relationships! WESH 2's Megan Mellado found out coffee shops are playing a major role in bringing people together, especially since COVID.

Date: 2/14/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Being single on Valentine's Day interview.

Date: 2/15/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Very Local restaurants on the radar interview.

Date: 2/19/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:00

Summary: Today is the last day of the Spark Stem Festival, the most popular event of the year at the Orlando Science Center. The Spark STEM Festival is meant to spark kids interest in careers in science, tech, engineering, and math. There's interactive exhibits and plenty of other opportunities for family fun. Meteorologist Eric Burris is at the Science Center to show us one of those experiments that involve eggs.

Date: 2/20/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:50

Summary: As we continue to celebrate Black History Month, you're about to meet a man who's made Olympic history twice. WESH 2's Stewart Moore takes us to Gainesville to meet the first black swimmer to win an Olympic gold medal, who also coached Team USA Swimming at the games.

Date: 2/20/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Interview on wage gaps for Black Americans.

Date: 2/21/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: "Sanford Porchfest" interview.

Date: 2/21/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:00

Summary: All month long we have been highlighting school crossing guards across Central Florida to show our appreciation for them and all they do for our kids and the community. At the beginning of February, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office held a banquet for all their crossing guards and gave out some big awards! Our Traffic Expert, Meaghan Mackey, joins us now. Meaghan, this unit of crossing guards is being recognized across the state.

Date: 2/22/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: NASA interview.

Date: 2/22/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:00

Summary: Welcome back! This morning, we are raising awareness about impaired driving and the negative impacts it has right here in Central Florida. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says about 31 percent of all traffic fatalities involve drunk drivers. Joining us here in the studio this morning is Kristi McElroy, the Director of the local chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

Date: 2/22/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 6:10

Summary: One local family is turning tragedy to triumph. When 19-year-old Kaliegh Ottis was killed in a crash in 2013, her parents decided to honor her memory by starting a foundation. They've raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to help students achieve their dreams. It's just one reason Kaliegh's Dream Foundation is this week's WESH 2 CommUNITY Champion. WESH 2's Michelle Imperato shares their story.

Date: 2/23/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:05

Summary: For many black philanthropists, the desire to donate their time, talent, and money is rooted in family and cultural traditions of giving back. WESH 2's Sheldon Dutes joins us now and Sheldon, recent studies show nearly two-thirds of African American households donate to charitable causes and organizations. That passion, to help others, is a personal calling for local philanthropist Mia Poinsette.

Date: 2/23/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:05

Summary: One Magic Show is serving up infinite impossibilities this weekend in Orlando. Magician Kostya is appearing at Christner's for a dinner show where no two tricks are alike. Kostya and I chatted about it recently in a video call and he amazed me when he asked me to pick a word from a book in my house, I grabbed a Harry Potter book from my son's room watch what Kostya did.

Date: 2/23/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:00

Summary: The wait is over. NBC's *The Voice* returns Monday night on WESH 2. The new season includes new coaches and a new chair to accommodate them. Dan and Shay join us now!

Date: 2/23/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: *ONYX Magazine*, the premier publication that celebrates Black achievement throughout Florida and beyond, is getting ready to recognize Florida's most accomplished and influential Black women in business and leadership. Joining us now are *ONYX* President Rich Black and Vice President Dee Parker.

Date: 2/26/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:36

Summary: Using electricity to control other people. That is exactly what happened in today's "Science of It." Meteorologist Eric Burriss joins us now. Eric, you lost a bit of control over your arm when you went to the Orlando Science Center.

Date: 2/27/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:50

Summary: The contributions of Black Americans and Caribbean immigrants to Florida's history will be on display in an official state museum of Black history. Governor DeSantis approved the plan last year, and there are a team of state lawmakers and community leaders working to make this museum a reality. Eatonville put in a bid for the museum. It's one of 13 spots across our state hoping to hold onto that piece of our history.

Date: 2/28/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:35

Summary: All month long we have highlighted school crossing guards across Central Florida to show our appreciation! Today, we want to introduce you to our fifth crossing guard this month who has been doing the job for almost three decades. Our Traffic Expert, Meaghan Mackey joins us now. Meaghan, you are taking us to Sweetwater Elementary School in Volusia County.

Date: 2/29/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:45

Summary: So many of us look forward to doing nothing when we retire, but for some retirees the lack of structure often leads to boredom. WESH 2's Sheldon Dutes caught up with this morning's CommUNITY Champion, Ken Schields.

Date: 3/7/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 6:10

Summary: In this week's CommUNITY Champion, we're introducing you to the woman who started a nonprofit after experiencing the greatest loss of her life in 2013. The Finley Project is helping grieving mothers here in Central Florida and nationwide after the devastating loss of a baby.

Date: 3/1/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 4:00  
Summary: St. Paddy's Parade interview.

Date: 3/1/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 4:00  
Summary: More than Pink walk interview.

Date: 3/4/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 4:00  
Summary: Eagle Awards interview.

Date: 3/4/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 4:45  
Summary: What happens when you combine water, film canisters, and a fizzy tablet? The Orlando Science Center says it makes one of their favorite science experiments called a pop rocket. Meteorologist Eric Burris is figuring out how it all works in today's "Science of it."

Date: 3/6/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 4:00  
Summary: Daytona 200 interview.

Date: 3/8/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 3:00  
Summary: NASA Solar Eclipse interview.

Date: 3/11/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 4:00  
Summary: Local high school students science award interviews.

Date: 3/13/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 4:00  
Summary: Local singer on *The Voice* interview.

Date: 3/13/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 3:00  
Summary: Very local *Wait, What happened?* interview.

Date: 3/14/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 5:15

Summary: A non-profit is keeping the un-housed community and their pets together by providing free veterinary care. We're introducing you to this week's CommUNITY Champion: Project Street Vet.

Date: 3/15/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:02

Summary: The busy spring travel period is upon us, but have you ever thought about the science that goes into how we get from one place to another? Meteorologist Eric Burris is at the Orlando Science Center to show us a new exhibit that explains just that.

Date: 3/18/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:10

Summary: Have you ever wondered how a superhero gets from one place to another so quickly? Some might have super speed; perhaps others can fly. But some need some extra help getting that momentum. Meteorologist Eric Burris is at the Orlando Science Center to show us how they could use catapults to travel and the science behind them!

Date: 3/18/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:00

Summary: Orlando Mom Easter egg hunt interview

Date: 3/20/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Pints n' Paws interview.

Date: 3/20/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Mr. Rogers walking tour interview.

Date: 3/20/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:00

Summary: Jagged Little Pill interview

Date: 3/21/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 6:10

Summary: What started as a low-cost spay and neuter clinic in Marion County almost ten years ago has now become a lifeline for pet parents who are struggling with finances. WESH 2's Sanika Dange introduces us to this week's CommUNITY Champion – Vocal Community Clinic and Resource Center.

Date: 3/22/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 4:00  
Summary: Orlando Pride home opener interview.

Date: 3/25/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 2:35  
Summary: This morning on the "Science of It," we are playing with fire! Meteorologist Eric Burris is at the Science Center showing us how the color of flames can be changed based on what chemicals are being burned.

Date: 3/26/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 3:30  
Summary: Oviedo High School senior named top scientist interview.

Date: 3/26/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 3:30  
Summary: United Way Women's Luncheon interview.

Date: 3/28/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 4:00  
Summary: Walk Like MADD 5K interview.

Date: 3/26/2024  
Newscast: 9a  
Length: 5:30  
Summary: So many parents know that youth sports is more than just a game. Players are also learning life skills like teamwork and effective communication from their coaches. I want you to meet this week's CommUNITY Champion. This special person has been leading and guiding local youth basketball players on and off the court for more than four decades.

## **MATTER of FACT with Soledad O'Brien**

**CW18 – Sundays at 4:30a and 8a**

**ESTRELLA TV – Sunday at 9a**

### **January 7, 2024**

This week on *Matter of Fact with Soledad O'Brien*: America's livestock and dairy industries are worth more than \$100 billion annually. To ensure animals' health, farmers, and ranchers need access to veterinary services. But in 2023, more than 230 regions across 47 states were designated as "Veterinarian Shortage Areas" by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. That's the most ever. Correspondent Jessica Gomez takes us to South Dakota to meet a veterinarian struggling with a brutal workload and the young student training to one day take over the role.

Wawa Gatheru, 25, is an inaugural member of a new Environmental Protection Agency council. It's the EPA's first-ever national youth advisory council. The committee is made up of 16 people between the ages of 16 and 29. They're now tasked with providing the EPA administrator with policy advice and recommendations for environmental issues including climate change, environmental justice, and air quality. Gatheru shares her hopes for the committee and explains how young people can use history as a guide for addressing climate change.

The United Methodist Church is fracturing. More than 7,000 congregations have received permission to break away from the UMC since 2019. The divide is driven in large part by disagreements over the church's approach to LGBTQ policy. This fracturing isn't unique to the UMC. Correspondent Dina Demetrius traveled to Michigan, where a youth pastor and his family are coming to grips with losing their own faith community over his refusal to denounce the LGBTQ community.

The Great Recession. The Big Quit. In recent years, many Americans left their jobs citing frustrations like stagnant pay. But now, a new survey shows several professions are seeing substantial wage increases. Soledad breaks down who's making more and who isn't.

Finally, where do train cars go when they're retired? Soledad has the story about a centuries-old method of getting rid of old vehicles, while fostering a thriving marine environment.

### **January 14, 2024**

This week on *Matter of Fact* with Soledad O'Brien: The United States has the highest population of incarcerated people in the world. That includes thousands of people awaiting trial, unable to afford their bail. Several states and local governments have recently reformed their bail systems. In Michigan, advocates for reform hope to see action by the end of the year while opponents argue any changes will threaten public safety. Correspondent Dan Lieberman travels to Michigan and speaks with a sheriff, a judge, and a woman who spent months behind bars as a teen, unable to pay her bail.

More than 400 million children live in countries where there is ongoing war or violent conflict. These fights are often protracted, like the conflict between Israel and Palestine and the war in Ukraine. Dr. Zlatina Kostova is a clinical psychologist with the University of Massachusetts. She's helping train mental health



providers in Ukraine on how to assist children living through war. She tells Soledad about how war impacts children's brains and development and what can be done to help them cope with the toxic stress created by their environment.

Even as more and more people "get online," the digital divide persists. According to Pew Research Center, more than 40% of adults making under \$30,000 do not own a laptop or computer. A business in Minnesota is working to change that by providing people with free or discounted computers. Correspondent Laura Chavez meets the owner and creator of PCs for People and a woman who says the organization changed her life.

The 2024 primary season gets underway with the Republican caucus in Iowa followed by the New Hampshire primary. As voters decide who will be on the general election ballot, some states are trying to decide whether they should rethink their primary process. For example, Arizona, Idaho, and Oregon are all considering moving to nonpartisan primaries. Soledad breaks down which states are considering what changes.

Finally, some of the best-known artists in the world contributed to an amusement park in the 1980s. It opened for a short time in Hamburg, Germany and then was virtually forgotten. That is until now. Soledad tells the story behind "Luna Luna: Forgotten Fantasy," now open to the public in Los Angeles, CA.

### **January 21, 2024**

The winter cold is adding urgency to the migrant crisis in many major cities including New York, Chicago, and Denver. In New York City, more than 170,000 migrants have arrived since Spring 2022, straining the city's support system. But St. Louis, MO, which has a history of rolling out the welcome mat to refugees, sees the migrants' arrival as an opportunity. An organization there is creating programs to help asylum-seekers from the Southern border, hoping they can resettle there and boost the city's economy. Correspondent Joie Chen travels to the Gateway to the West and meets with the people who immigrated there years ago.

Rob Reiner is many things: actor, director, filmmaker and now, podcaster. As the son of comedian and Emmy-winning actor Carl Reiner, it's clear the entertainment industry is in his blood. Soledad visited Rob Reiner at his home in California where he told her about growing up as Carl Reiner's son, his most personally meaningful works, and his fascination with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. That fascination led him to launch his latest project, "Who Killed JFK," a podcast he and Soledad partnered on.

This year brings a major development for veterans struggling with PTSD and depression. The Veteran Affairs Department announced it will fund studies into whether psychedelic-assisted therapy is helpful in treating mental health disorders for former military personnel. This comes after lobbying by several combat veterans who say they turned to psychedelics as a last resort. Correspondent Jessica Gomez sits down with a former Marine who shares how the treatment worked for him.

As the 2024 election officially gets underway with the start of primaries, recent polling by the Bipartisan Policy Center shows more than 80% of voters are worried about the state of America's democracy. One voting method that's garnering traction as a possible solution is rank-choice voting. Soledad breaks down how rank-choice voting works and why some are warning against it.

Finally, large portions of the country have been dealing with snowy, icy roads. While salt is key to keeping the roads safe, some states and municipalities are adding another ingredient to the mix: beet juice. The molasses-like byproduct of beets lowers the freezing-point of ice. It also has environmental benefits, lowering the amount of salt needed to treat the roads. But Soledad explains that, as with any thing it's not a miracle cure.

### **January 28, 2024**

This week on *Matter of Fact* with Soledad O'Brien: America's teachers are finding themselves on the frontlines of the youth mental health crisis. According to a government survey in 2021, 42% of high schoolers reported feeling persistently sad or hopeless. This is especially challenging for rural communities that lack the access to treatment centers. Correspondent Dina Demetrius visited a school in the California desert that's launched a new program aimed at providing students with better mental health support. She introduces us to the teachers running the program and a student who says it's made a major impact on her, and her friends' lives.

Beverly Johnson made history in 1974 as the first Black model to appear on the cover of American *Vogue*. But Johnson tells Soledad while there has been progress in the fashion industry towards greater diversity and inclusion, there's still work to be done. Johnson is marking the fiftieth anniversary of her breakthrough cover with a one-woman show in New York City. She talks with Soledad about the show, the modeling industry, and her fascinating career.

It took several days following the 2020 Presidential election before it was clear who had won the White House. That's because election workers needed more time to properly process and count the influx of mail-in ballots. Now some states are considering changes to their ballot-processing rules to ensure things run more smoothly, and quickly, in future elections. Soledad breaks down the potential changes.

Home ownership is out of reach for millions of Americans. Housing prices are high as are interest rates. Affordable housing advocates say private investment companies are further upsetting the market. Correspondent Dan Lieberman traveled to Milwaukee to see how one innovative program is helping residents compete against private companies for the keys to their first homes.

Finally, plastic six-pack rings are getting a more environmentally friendly upgrade. A company in Mexico has developed six and four-pack holders that are 100% biodegradable and won't pollute oceans or landfills. Soledad has the details.

### **February 4, 2024**

This week on *Matter of Fact* with Soledad O'Brien: The Supreme Court will soon hear a case that is critical to the presidential primary calendar. A group of Republican and unaffiliated voters in Colorado said that former President Trump cannot be on the state's Republican primary ballot. Their decision pertains to the 14th Amendment, which states that anyone who has taken an oath to the Constitution and gone on to engage in insurrection, cannot hold office. In early 2022, Kim Wehle, a professor at the University of Baltimore School of Law, was one of the first people to note the 14th Amendment's potential impact on any future run by former President Trump. Soledad speaks with Wehle about how the Supreme Court might handle the case.

*“I have finally gotten so I'm not angry, but it's taken a long time.”* Those are the words of educator and Portland, OR native, Donna Maxey. She was 12 years old when her family was forced out of a predominantly Black community. The city had claimed much of their neighborhood, called Albina, for what it dubbed “urban renewal.” Their home, and her father’s business, were demolished along with dozens of others. Correspondent Alexis Clark visited Portland where a non-profit now has a bold plan to build a new community where the neighborhood once stood.

More than 30 million children in America can't afford school meals, increasing lunch debt for many. During the pandemic the government paid for every public-school student to eat, but now only nine states offer free meals. Correspondent Laura Chavez traveled to Pennsylvania, where advocates are pushing for free lunches, to talk to teachers and cafeteria employees who are fighting for all children to eat.

Plus, tax season is underway, and this year brings some big changes. Tax brackets have been amended and could prove favorable for many families. For those moving to cleaner energy, the IRS is offering tax credits on new electric vehicles, as well as for any energy-efficient home improvement. Soledad reports about additional changes and tools to help you file.

Finally, most workers in the U.S. have desk jobs. According to a new study published by the American Medical Association, that’s taking a toll on people’s health. Those who sit all day have a 16% higher risk of mortality - from all causes - than those who have more active jobs. But the research also found that if desk-workers did 15 to 30 minutes of additional exercise each day, the increased health risks disappear.

## **February 11, 2024**

This week on *Matter of Fact* with Soledad O’Brien: As Congress stalls on border legislation, the residents of Denver are confronting the migrant crisis head on. More than 38,000 migrants have arrived in Denver in the last 14 months, straining the city’s services. Now, local volunteers and business owners are filling the gap. Correspondent Jessica Gomez traveled to Denver to meet the city’s new mayor and a local motel owner who has opened her doors, taking in hundreds of migrants in need of shelter.

Lilliana Mason is a political psychologist who for years has been tracking Americans’ feelings about politics. Recently, she started to notice a disturbing trend. As Americans became more divided politically and geographically, they became more distrusting, hostile and even accepting of political violence against people in the opposing party. In fact, these sentiments were particularly high around the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection. Mason shares her findings with Soledad and explains how George Washington actually warned hundreds of years ago that this could happen.

*“Our voices were largely absent from the conversation and we had really important insights.”* Those are the words of Aaliyah Bilal, a Black Muslim American. When she realized she didn’t see anyone like herself in the media, literature or the national conversation, she decided to do something about it. Her resulting book, “Temple Folk”, landed the first-time author a final spot in the National Book Award in 2023. She shares how she approached the book and the role she hopes it plays in shedding light on the Black Muslim experience.

Tip earners are not guaranteed the minimum wage under federal law, but some states are considering stepping in. Many tip workers earn the federal sub-minimum wage of \$2.13. If their tips plus those wages don’t add up to the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour, employers are expected to make up the

difference, but industry analysts say many don't. Now some states are considering ballot measures that would require businesses to pay all employees the minimum wage, regardless of whether they earn tips or not.

Finally, researchers would like you to go outside and count the birds. The annual Great Backyard Bird Count runs from February 16 to 19. Participants are asked to spend 15 minutes counting and recording all the birds they see or hear. They then report that information to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Birds are an excellent indicator of environmental issues, so the global count helps researchers build a better understanding of the world around us.

### **February 25, 2024**

This week on *Matter of Fact with Soledad O'Brien*: Buckeye, Arizona is one of the country's fastest growing cities. The historically small agriculture community is now the center of several major residential builds. But as the mega drought wears on, city officials are searching for new sources of water to sustain growth and a future with more people. Correspondent Dan Lieberman heads to the city on the outskirts of Phoenix and talks to the mayor and residents about the challenges and possible solutions.

Nearly 17 million people have lost Medicaid coverage in the last 11 months. On the face of it, that number seems staggering. But Matt Salo, former founding Executive Director of the National Association of Medicaid Directors, tells Soledad the program is simply right sizing following the pandemic. But some people who still qualify are losing their health coverage. Salo explains the steps states are taking to minimize that number and what they're doing to help those removed reenroll quickly.

Colorado is one of the many states headed to the primary polls on Super Tuesday. The Centennial State has had a fair amount of turnover in its election offices since the 2020 presidential race. More than a third of the election administrators have either quit or left their jobs because of term limits. We introduce you to Jefferson County's clerk, Amanda Gonzalez, who's taken on the job others are walking away from.

The Great Resignation is being replaced by the Great Retirement. During the pandemic there was a spike in retirements but according to new modeling by the St. Louis Federal Reserve, we're seeing a second surge. The analysis projects that there are nearly three million more people retired now than originally predicted. What's that mean for the balance of the economy as more baby boomers reach retirement age? Wendy Edelberg of the Brookings Intuition explains.

Finally, this month NASA's Mars rover, Perseverance, is marking three years since its arrival on the Red Planet. The little rover is continuing to amaze. Soledad shows some of the images it just captured of a solar eclipse on Mars, as one of the planet's moons crossed in front of the sun.

### **March 3, 2024**

This week on *Matter of Fact with Soledad O'Brien*: Children are missing school at a record rate in the United States. During the 2021-2022 school year, nearly 15 million students were chronically absent. That's almost twice what it was before the pandemic. "If we don't address this issue among our youngest learners, we are going to suffer huge consequences as they grow older," says Hedy Chang, the executive director of Attendance Works. Now, one school in Virginia is taking a new, more personal approach to getting kids back into the classroom by working with their families. Correspondent Jessica Gomez travels

to Richmond, VA and meets the people going door-to-door to make sure kids are getting the education they need.

Wastewater testing is quickly becoming an important tool for communities' health. This testing method rose to prominence during the Coronavirus pandemic as a way to measure infection rates at a time when individual tests were still hard to come by. BioBot, an MIT startup in Massachusetts, assisted in that testing but its head of chemistry, Kaitlyn Hess Jimenez, says wastewater can help communities with so much more, from detecting other illnesses like flu to substances like medications in wastewater.

Finding love online can be exciting but it can also be exhausting. Researchers say our brains can only process a few options at a time, making "dating app fatigue" an issue as people become overwhelmed by possible connections. Correspondent Laura Chavez talks with a dating app expert about the impact all that swiping and messaging has on our brains.

Methane is a greenhouse gas that traps heat, raising the earth's temperature. Researchers say cutting methane emissions from fossil fuel operations, agriculture and other sectors could slow global warming by as much as 30%. But tracking the sources of those emissions is challenging. One solution could be an innovative satellite that is about to be launched. It will provide accurate, detailed, free mapping of methane emissions around the world.

Finally, this spring brings an historic event. For the first time in more than two centuries, two broods of cicadas will emerge at the same time. Soledad explains that while annoying and maybe a little unsettling, this massive influx of cicadas actually has environmental benefits.

### **March 10, 2024**

This week on *Matter of Fact* with Soledad O'Brien: Comedian and Alabama native Roy Wood, Jr. joins Soledad in the studio to talk about the 2024 election, his passion for baseball and his commitment to his home state. He says, "a lot of people make a mistake of thinking that the news that comes out of Alabama represents all of the people that are in Alabama, and that's not the truth." Alabama is on the verge of making state history if it sends a second Black representative to the U.S. Congress. Roy Wood, Jr. also digs into the role and responsibility of comedy in politics.

We head to Virginia to meet a retired coal miner who suffers from black lung. The disease is caused by exposure to silica dust which, when inhaled, can damage and scar lungs. John Robinson is being treated in an Appalachian clinic that has seen a spike in cases. From 2013 to 2017, more than 400 people were diagnosed with black lung. Robinson, who started working underground when he was 20 years old, shares his story.

Plus, at least 10 million people around the world are considered stateless, someone who the UN defines as "not recognized as a national by any state under operation of its law." More than 200,000 of them live in the United States. *Matter of Fact's* special correspondent Joie Chen talked to two stateless people trying to navigate their unusual immigration situations.

Some U.S. cities are turning to zoning reform to try and mitigate the country's housing crisis. Strategies they're employing include allowing multifamily homes to be built in neighborhoods that traditionally only had single-family dwellings. Stephen Menendian, the University of California, Berkley's assistant director

of the "Othering and Belonging Institute," tells us about an interactive map tracking these zoning reform efforts.

Finally, our Viewfinder segment features images from the annual Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. *Houston Chronicle* photographers give viewers a glimpse of the world's largest show and rodeo of its kind, with famous musicians, carnival rides, and portraits of some of the more than two million people expected to attend this year's event.

### **March 17, 2024**

This week on *Matter of Fact* with Soledad O'Brien: With nearly 400,000 children in foster care, the system is strained. That means when kids turn 18, they're often pushed out of the system and on their own. Young people who age out of foster care are more likely to experience homelessness and incarceration. Correspondent Laura Chavez travels to Boulder County, Colorado where volunteers and non-profits are stepping in to make sure these young people land on their feet.

From work contracts to internships to grants, a series of lawsuits across the country is taking aim at programs that help minorities. One of the latest cases is against the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), a federal agency that's been around more than 50 years. A federal judge in Texas says it's violating the constitution by providing services based on race. Soledad speaks with civil rights attorney Alphonso David about the ruling's potential impact. David also represents the Fearless Fund, an organization that's being sued because it helps businesses run by women of color.

Plus, this winter didn't feel much like winter at all for most of the United States. According to NOAA, this was the warmest winter on record for the Lower 48. It's the latest indication of the impacts of climate change. The Environmental Protection Agency is seeking some fresh perspectives as it looks to address climate concerns. It's launched the first-ever federal advisory council comprised solely of young people. We meet a 25-year-old climate activist who now sits on that panel.

There's a national push to remove the lead service pipes still carrying water to millions of homes. This effort could be getting a little easier, thanks to researchers at Drexel University, who say that by pinging a pipe still buried underground and measuring the sound waves, they can determine whether it is made of lead.

Finally, the Smithsonian Women's History Museum is marking Women's History Month with an inaugural online exhibition. Digital curator Liz Harmon explains that the exhibit brings attention to some of history's hidden women.

### **March 24, 2024**

This week on *Matter of Fact* with Soledad O'Brien: Swatting is when someone calls 911 reporting an active attacker at a location. Law enforcement and SWAT teams race to the scene, weapons at the ready. But these calls are completely fabricated and that means an unsuspecting person and their family are shocked by an intense police response. Lawmakers are some of the most common targets, and with incidents rising, the FBI has launched a national database to track these calls. In Georgia, a rash of calls recently sent police rushing to several lawmakers' homes. Correspondent Dan Lieberman traveled to Atlanta where those representatives are now coming together across the aisle to stop swatting.

On Tuesday the Supreme Court takes up one of its biggest cases of the term. It involves mifepristone, one of the most used abortion pills. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved mifepristone in 2000. Twice it expanded access to the drug, including allowing doctors to prescribe it via Telehealth appointment. Now, a group of anti-abortion doctors is challenging the FDA's expanded access to the drug. Amy Howe covers the Supreme Court and joins Soledad in the studio to discuss the potential impact this case could have on both access to mifepristone and the FDA's approval process.

Baseball season's opening day is March 28, but one former player is trying for a different kind of win, one for his hometown. Cleon Jones was part of the "Mighty Mets", the team that won the 1969 World Series. Even though he retired from the game decades ago, Jones hasn't slowed down. For the last 40 years he has been revitalizing his hometown of Africatown. Alexis Clark visits the Mobile, Alabama neighborhood to see what Jones is doing to save the place that gave him his start.

New maps reveal several cities along the east coast are sinking at an alarming rate. New York City and Baltimore are dropping by an average of almost two millimeters a year. Charleston, South Carolina is one of the fastest-sinking cities; the downtown area is just ten feet above sea level. Soledad reports on the reasons and potential solutions to stop the sink.

Finally, a tiny fish is creating an underwater cacophony. Recently discovered in Myanmar, the *Danionella Cerebrum* lives in murky waters. German scientists discovered that the fish makes an incredibly loud noise, comparable to a jet engine. Soledad shares their findings.

### **March 31, 2024**

This week on *Matter of Fact* with Soledad O'Brien: From overseeing the election to the power of voters, this week *Matter of Fact* focuses on the foundations of democracy.

The presidential election is just months away but with high turnover in election offices, are states ready for voting day? According to a survey by the Brennan Center for Justice, this will be the first presidential election for one in five local election officials. Correspondent Dan Lieberman travels to Pennsylvania, one of the states looking to recruit and retain its election staff. Officials there tell him more security and support are needed to improve conditions for the people at the backbone of our democratic process.

Nearly 70 percent of U.S. adults say the political climate is a significant source of stress in their lives, according to the American Psychological Association. But a political cartoonist is hoping brevity, and some levity, can help people engage in politics. Soledad sits down with award-winning cartoonist Christopher Weyant who says his goal isn't to change minds but to make people think about important issues.

Every vote counts, but where you live can impact how your vote counts. In Ohio, advocates are concerned that current voting maps are gerrymandered to weaken the political power of minorities. Redistricting has been a long-running issue in the state, and a commission was founded to help draw fairer maps. But critics say the commission is making the situation worse. Correspondent Diane Roberts travels to Ohio and meets the people divided over the state's dividing lines.

During an election year, billions of dollars go to turning out the vote. The last three national general elections saw some of the highest voter turnout in decades. Still, less than 40% of Americans voted in all



three elections. That's according to new numbers from the Pew Research Center. Soledad explains what the findings tell us about who is and who isn't heading to the polls.

Finally, we pivot from politics to astronomy. NASA is looking to build on research from the 1930s during April's solar eclipse. Soledad explains the project and why NASA is asking for your help to complete this mission.

### **WESH 2 NEWS on CW 18 – EDUCATION**

Date: 1/24/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: :45

Summary: This week is National School Choice Week. It's the time where parents are figuring out what aspects they appreciate and dislike about their kids' schools and if they want to switch things up. WESH 2 spoke with Shelby Doyle, the Vice President of the National School Choice Awareness Foundation. She says Florida has done a lot to provide new opportunities for schooling.. but if you are still struggling to decide what type of schools are best talk to your kid first.

Date: 1/30/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: :30

Summary: Spring Break is less than two months away and Volusia County is hosting a camp for kids! The spring break camp helps students get creative and explore their passions. It runs March 25th to the 28th at DeLand Boy Scouts Hut on Frankfort Avenue. You can register by scanning the QR code at the bottom of your screen. The camp is available for kids aged 5 to 12 years old.

Date: 2/4/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 3:27

Summary: Crooms Academy of Information and Technology leads Seminole County Public Schools with top test scores and a 100-percent graduation rate.

Date: 2/4/2024

Newscast: 5a

Length: 3:30

Summary: In Winter Park, there is a school for those with neurological and motor disabilities.

Date: 2/6/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Interview on the opening of the Florida Prepaid Enrollment.



Date: 2/7/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:40

Summary: In the month of February, all across Central Florida, we are highlighting school crossing guards who go above and beyond the call of duty. This morning, I'm introducing a crossing guard who works at multiple schools and took the job after a career in law enforcement.

Date: 2/14/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:55

Summary: In the month of February, we are highlighting school crossing guards across Central Florida who go above and beyond the call of duty. We want to bring in Traffic Expert Meaghan Mackey. This week she is introducing us to a crossing guard in Lake County. This week we are meeting Jonette Dreger who works near Sawgrass Bay Elementary School.

Date: 2/21/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 2:00

Summary: All month long we have been highlighting school crossing guards across Central Florida to show our appreciation for them and all they do for our kids and the community. At the beginning of February, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office held a banquet for all their crossing guards and gave out some big awards! Our Traffic Expert, Meaghan Mackey, joins us now. Meaghan, this unit of crossing guards is being recognized across the state.

Date: 2/28/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:35

Summary: All month long we have highlighted school crossing guards across Central Florida to show our appreciation! Today, we want to introduce you to our fifth crossing guard this month who has been doing the job for almost three decades. Our Traffic Expert, Meaghan Mackey joins us now. Meaghan, you are taking us to Sweetwater Elementary School in Volusia County.

Date: 3/11/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 4:00

Summary: Local high school students science award interviews.

Date: 3/26/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:30

Summary: Oviedo High School senior named top scientist interview.

## WESH 2 NEWS on CW18 – WEATHER

Date: 1/9/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:10

Summary: Governor DeSantis already activated the State Guard ahead of today's anticipated storm. Power companies are also getting prepared in case of outages. WESH 2's Bob Hazen reports Duke energy says they are prepared for days like this, year-round.

Date: 1/17/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: :45

Summary: As temperatures continue dropping across our state, strawberry farmers are also being threatened by the El Niño weather pattern. In just three weeks, these delicate flowers are set to be market-ready strawberries; that is unless too much rain or the freezing temperatures get in their way. One farmer on the Polk and Hillsborough County line, says it's been a challenging season so far because of the rain and lack of sunlight.

Date: 1/20/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:35

Summary: With temperatures dropping tonight, the Salvation Army's men's shelter is offering homeless men a warm place to stay. WESH 2's Paola Tristan Arruda was there when the shelter opened its doors.

Date: 1/29/2024

Newscast: 10p

Length: 1:00

Summary: Now to another big story tonight, the chilly weather is back! We're bringing in Chief Meteorologist Tony Mainolfi for a breakdown of those temperatures and he will tell us they will be in the 40's all week.

Date: 2/6/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 1:00

Summary: Severe Weather Awareness Week continues today, and the topic couldn't be more timely, as the weather warms up and more people head to the beach. Chief Meteorologist Tony Mainolfi explains how the marine hazards we will see could have serious consequences.

Date: 2/6/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 3:00

Summary: Interview on the Severe Weather Awareness Week.

Date: 3/11/2024

Newscast: 7a/8a/9a

Length: 1:20

Summary: The weather impacted several flights over the weekend. Hundreds of people were forced to reschedule after an abundance of flights were delayed. WESH 2's Tony Atkins reports, this is all happening as the busy spring break travel period begins to ramp up.

Date: 3/1/2024

Newscast: 9a

Length: 5:00

Summary: WESH 2 Meteorologist Eric Burris's hurricane forecast interview.

WESH 2 & CW18 station talent regularly participate in a variety of community outreach efforts. The following is a list of events in which the station was involved this quarter. Public issue and subject matter within each project is enclosed:

Friday, January 12	10:30AM- 1:30PM	Summer Knowles   Emcee	MLK Commemorative Luncheon	Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity & I.S. Hankins-F.A. Johnson Education Foundation, Inc. 38th Annual MLK Day Commemorative Luncheon. Community leaders and organizations were recognized for their contributions with the prestigious Drum Major Award! 200 in attendance.
Saturday, January 13	12-3PM	Christina Watkins   Keynote Speaker	Delta Sigma Theta DeLand Alumnae Founders Day Program	DeLand Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Founders Day luncheon honored the founding members of the organization. 50 in attendance.
Monday, January 15	9AM- 11AM/3- 5PM	Stewart Moore & Michelle Imperto   Emcees	City of Orlando Mayor's MLK Commission	City of Orlando Mayor's MLK Commission Great Day of Service.
Tuesday, January 16	11AM- 1PM	Sunrise Team   Presenters	WESH 2 Studio Tour	The morning team hosted Elon University journalism students and provided a tour, answered questions, and allowed students to observe a broadcast. 36 in attendance.
Friday, January 19	10AM- 2PM	Tony Mainolfi, Eric Burris, Cam Tran, Marquise Meda   Presenters	WESH 2 Weather Summit	Informational presentation given by the entire WESH 2 weather team.
Tuesday, January 23		Stephanie Linton, Nancy Alvarez, Mike Kirby, Mark Moorer   Presenters	Junior Achievement's 'Inspire' Career Fair	WESH 2 & CW18 provided an interactive booth that allowed children to read news on camera at the <i>Junior's Achievement Inspired</i> event where Over 4,000 + 8th grade students across Central Florida were in attendance. The primary focus of this event is to expose kids to entrepreneurship and financial literacy.
Thursday, January 25	5:15-7PM	Eric Burris   Presenter	Keeth Elementary STEAM Family Night	Annual event held for students and their families to explore STEAM. 300-600 in attendance.

Saturday, January 27	9AM-2PM	Eric Burris   Emcee	Aerospace & Aviation	Orlando Sanford International Airport event where thousands of Seminole County students and their families were in attendance to learn about aviation and aerospace careers. There were also military, commercial, and civilian aircraft on the runway.
Saturday, January 27	6-8PM	Stewart Moore   Guest Host	Michal's Hope Gala	A memorable evening filled with food, fun, inspiration, awareness, and shared sense of purpose towards Michal's Hope, mission to serve individuals in various stages of renal failure and their families by providing assistance for caregivers and access to resources throughout the dialysis and transplantation process.
Wednesday, January 31	11AM- 12PM	Kellianne Klass   Speaker	Heathrow Elementary	Kellianne Klas spoke to students that are studying Weather and Climate.
Thursday, February 1	7:30AM- 9AM	Stewart Moore   Emcee	Victory Cup Initiative	9th Annual Storytelling Showcase where more than \$300,00 in cash and resource prizes were distributed to ten Central Florida nonprofits in a Shark Tank-style competition. Each nonprofit had 150 seconds to share how they are impacting the community before an audience 500+ local philanthropists and business leaders vote for their top choices.
Friday, February 2	7-8:30PM	Sheldon Dutes   Emcee	Opening Reception	Cultuvue Photography Exhibition VIP opening reception was an exclusive look at the latest curated photography collections that encourage, inspire, and illuminate. Their goal is to promote visual literacy, fostering communication and understanding among diverse ethnic groups.
Friday, February 2	5:30- 9:30PM	Nancy Alvarez   Emcee	Orange County Public Schools-Stellar Awards	An employee recognition event at which the Principal of the Year, Assistant Principal of the Year, Teacher of the Year and Support Person of the Year were named. 1,600 in attendance.
Saturday, February 3	10AM- 3PM	Tony Mainolfi   Presenter	"Touch a Truck" severe weather awareness program	Seminole County Emergency Management's annual severe weather awareness program where chief meteorologist held demonstrations and discussion.
Saturday, February 3	11AM- 1PM	Summer Knowles   Emcee	Founders Day Luncheon	The Orange County (FL) Alumnae Chapter (OCAC) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Founders Day program held to celebrate the 116-year legacy of their Founders. 350 in attendance.

Thursday, February 8	5:30- 6:30PM	Nancy Alvarez   Presenter	UCF Student Visit	24 NAHJ students visited WESH 2 & CW18 for a Q&A with station talent Nancy Alvarez.
Friday, February 9	7AM- 3:30PM	Zach Maskavich   Emcee	Nemours Children's Health Orlando Golf Tournament	Charity golf tournament held to benefit the Jennifer Lynn Schott Childhood Arthritis Clinic which provides comprehensive care for children with juvenile arthritis and related rheumatic conditions. Approximately 175 in attendance.
Friday, February 9	11AM- 2PM	Stewart Moore   Moderator	Tiger Bay Club of Central Florida	The Club hosted a panel of Election Supervisors from Orange, Lake, and Seminole Counties. Supervisors spoke about election security, and the protection of poll workers private information. 120 in attendance.
Friday, February 9	5:30-8PM	Megan Mellado   Emcee	Seminole County Public Schools	2025 Teacher of the Year Celebration. Celebration of all 65 teachers of the year and the surprise announcement of the SCPS District Teacher of the Year.
Saturday, February 10	8:30AM- 12PM	Jake Arthur, Nacny Alvarez   Presenters	2024 Downtown Orlando Touch-A- Truck	Trucks and other vehicles used by workers and public servants every day throughout the community were brought together in one place, straight to the eyes and hands of the children and families of Orlando. WESH 2 was in attendance with our weather lab.
Saturday, February 10	8:30AM- 12PM	Meredith McDonough, Jason Guy   Emcees	Special Olympics Florida	The 14th annual Orlando Polar Plunge is one of Special Olympics Florida's biggest fundraising event. All proceeds raised help to support their 62,000 athletes statewide; providing year-round sports training and competitions, health screenings, athlete leadership and mentorship programs. 600 in attendance.
Saturday, February 10,	9AM- 11AM	Stewart Moore   Organizer	Orlando Union Rescue Mission	OURM 10th annual Baskets of Love event put together by station talent Stewart Moore. Heartwarming tradition of distributing 'baskets of love' filled with essential items such as toiletries, candy, and toys. 180 in attendance.
Tuesday, February 13	8-9:30AM	Gail Paschall- Brown   Emcee	Shepherd's Hope, Inc. Good Morning Hope Breakfast	Annual charity fundraising breakfast focused on the support of children, women, and men living without health insurance in Seminole County.

Saturday, February 17	5:30- 11:30PM	Jason Guy, Michelle Imperato   Emcees	St. Jude Orlando Gala	The St. Jude Orlando Gala held to raised funds for the kids of St. Jude. 525 in attendance.
Saturday, February 17	2-4PM	Stewart Moore   Moderator	Kappa League Career and Network Series	A forum organized by Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated that brought professionals together with middle and high school students to network and discuss college, careers, and keys to success.
Saturday, February 17	4:30PM- 7PM	Christina Watkins   Emcee	Celebrate! Lake Mary	Annual event aimed at bringing a weekend of live music, craft drinks, food, and more to the City of Lake Mary! 500-2000 in attendance.
Tuesday, February 20	5-8PM	Gail Paschall- Brown   Emcee	City of Orlando	Black History Month Annual Community Celebration of the lasting contributions and positive influence of African Americans in our Central Florida community. 350 in attendance.
Tuesday, February 20	6:00 PM	Stewart Moore   Moderator	Private screening of "Ordinary Angels"	Pre-screening of <i>Ordinary Angels</i> , a movie based on the true story of a young pediatric liver transplant. Stewart Moore moderated a discussion recognizing doctors and interviewing people who were pediatric patients at the time of their transplant.
Wednesday, February 21	1-2PM	Summer Knowles	Black History Month Book Reading	Summer Knowles read to the student of four classes at Pinewood Elementary School.
Thursday, February 22	6-9PM	Christina Watkins   Moderator	Raise Your Glass Promotions	11th Annual UNITY Networking Mixer celebrating Black History Month. Christina Watkins moderated the panel discussion 'servant leaders who are moving the equity needle in our community'. 100 in attendance.
Thursday, February 22	7-9PM	Tony Mainolfi   Emcee	Dr. Nelson Ying Orange County Science Exposition	Tony Mainolfi presented awards at the Regional Science Fair competition that feeds the Florida State Science and Engineering Fair as well as the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair. 500 were in attendance.
Friday, February 23	10:30AM- 2PM	Kellianne Klass   Emcee	American Heart Association	Event held to end heart disease and stroke in women and led by local leaders to meet the needs of our community.

Saturday, February 24	8-11:30AM	Megan Mellado   Emcee	World Languages Festival	This Seminole County Public Schools event showcased the World Languages program in Seminole County as well as the Dual Language programs in their elementary schools. 200 were in attendance.
Saturday, February 24	1:30-3:30PM	Christina Watkins   Emcee	American Foundation for Suicide Prevention	17th Annual Orlando Out of the Darkness Community Walk fundraiser held to give those affected by suicide a nationwide community empowered by research, education and advocacy to take action against this leading cause of death. 1,500 were in attendance.
Wednesday, February 28	9AM-5PM	Stephanie Linton   Board Member	University of Florida for Journalism Advisory Council Spring Meetings	News Director Stephanie Linton visited the University of Florida for Journalism Advisory Council Spring Meetings. Meetings ran through March 1, 2024.
Saturday, March 2	5-10PM	Meaghan Mackey   Emcee	2024 MADD Central Florida Gala	Fundraising event held to further the MADD mission. 250 were in attendance.
Monday, March 4	1:30-5PM	Sean Mooney, Mike Kirby   Presenters	Daytona State College	Assignment editor, Sean Mooney and photog, Mike Kirby, attended the Electronic Field Production & Videography class where they presented and demonstrate some of our resources such as our live truck. 25 students were in attendance.
Monday, March 4	9AM-5PM	Stephanie Linton   Presenter	Hearst Day at FAMU	News Director Stephanie Linton joined other Florida Hearst News Directors along with Corporate Recruiters in Tallahassee to meet students and faculty.
Tuesday, March 5	6PM	Belal Jaber   Presenter	UCF Nicholson School of Communication and Media	WESH 2 Executive Producer Belal Jaber spoke to students of a broadcast media class about the ins and outs of News Management. 18 students were in attendance.
Wednesday, March 6	9AM-12PM	Stephanie Linton and Mike Gramajo   Recruiters	University of Central Florida	News Director Stephanie Linton attended meet and greet with Journalism students at the University of Central Florida's Intern Pursuit.
Saturday, March 9	5:30-9PM	Stewart Moore, Summer Knowles   Emcee	African American Chamber of Commerce	Eagle Awards held to recognize and honor the small businesses, entrepreneurs, and corporations positively impacting our community and driving the growth and development of Central Florida's vibrant and diverse business landscape.



Wednesday, March 20	5:30- 7:30PM	Marquise Meda   Presenter	Heritage Middle School Science Night	The Museum of Arts and Sciences and science teachers at Heritage Middle School are working with our Parent Liaison to put together a fun-filled, educational science night. Would like to have a meteorologist present speak with students and families. 250 in attendance.
Monday, March 25	1PM-5PM	Stephanie Linton   Presenter	University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications	News Director Stephanie Linton attended University of Florida's College of Journalism and Communications Senior Showcase and Careers in Communication Fair.
Tuesday, March 26	9AM-5PM	Stephanie Linton   Presenter	University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications	News Director Stephanie Linton attended University of Florida's College of Journalism and Communications Senior Showcase and Careers in Communication Fair.
Thursday, March 28		Gail Pashcall   Emcee	Tuskegee Airmen Commemoration Day	Ceremony held to help celebrate the unit. 100+ were in attendance.
Saturday, March 30	6-9AM	Meaghan Mackey  Emcee	2024 Walk Like MADD & MADD Dash Clermont 5K	MADD's signature fundraising event held to help raise both awareness and funds to eliminate drunk and drugged driving. 250 were in attendance.