

WGSN Quarterly Issues 2023

4th Quarter

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October 1 --December 31, 2023

January 10, 2023

Section 1: Issues

- A. Health: Issues of health affecting the local area.
- B. Community: Notices of events or happenings in the community.
- C. Transportation: Various issues related to local roads and travel
- D. Education: Issues related to local colleges and schools.
- E. Economy: Discussing economic issues.
- F. Politics: Activities of our state government officials.

## Section II: Responsive Programs

- A. **WGSN News: “Report on Knox County Ambulance Service Performance”** WVLT-TV News reported that following months of concerns regarding ambulance response times and availability, the Knox County Commission met to talk about what the future of ambulance services in the county might look like. Fitch and Associates, a firm that the county hired to review how the county’s ambulance services operate, presented their findings to county leaders on Monday afternoon. **Broadcast:** 10/18/23 **Code:** 9330 **Duration:** 1:17 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 10/19/23.

**WGSN News: “Knox County Officials Question AMR Reps”** In a follow-up to an on-going news story, WVLT-TV News reported that on Thursday night, Knox county leaders had the chance to ask AMR and the Knox County Health Department questions that they had on their minds regarding AMR’s performance and expectations. **Broadcast:** 11/03/23 **Code:** 9350 **Duration:** 1:10 **Airing:** 17:04:12 and 7:04:04 11/06/23.

**WGSN News: “\$10 Million Donation to University of Tennessee Medical Center”** The Knoxville News-Sentinel reported that the University of Tennessee Medical Center's emergency department will nearly double in size thanks in part to a \$10 million donation from the Haslam family.. **Broadcast:** 12/18/23 **Code:** 9311 **Duration:** :53 **Airing:** 17:04:04 & 7:04:04 12/19/23.

- B. **WGSN NEWS: “E TN Family Granted Extension”** According to a news release from Tennessee Independent Baptists, the Christian family who faced a deportation deadline of October 11 has received a reprieve from the federal government. The Romeikes – who fled religious persecution in Germany to homeschool their children in the United States – were granted a one-year stay of removal from Immigration and Customs Enforcement on Friday. **Broadcast:** 10/11/23 **Code:** 9331 **Duration:** 1:20 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 10/12/23.

**WGSN NEWS: “New Knoxville Meeting Zone”** As reported by WBIR-TV News, the Knoxville Police Department set up a place where people can meet up to sell or buy items from each other, and where guardians can meet for child custody exchanges.. **Broadcast:** 11/09/23 **Code:** 9342 **Duration:** 1:13 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 11/10/23.

**WGSN News: “Historic Photo Exhibit of the ‘Secret City’”** The Manhattan Project National Historical Park’s most recent photo exhibit, “Recess - A Photographic Exhibition of Recreation in the Secret City” will open on Tuesday, December 12, in the Children’s Museum of Oak Ridge’s Imagination Gallery. **Broadcast:** 12/07/23 **Code:** 9342 **Duration:** 1:03 **Airing:** 17:04:04 & 7:04:04 12/08/23.

- C. **WGSN News: “Interstate 640 Improvement Project to Resume”** According to WATE-TV News, the Tennessee Department of Transportation has announced a tentative schedule for I-640 lane closures this month as the multi-million-dollar reconstruction project resumes. **Broadcast:** 10/11/23 **Code:** 9332 **Duration:** 1:02 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 10/12/23.

**WGSN News: “TDOT and THP Urge Drivers to Pay Attention”** As reported by WVLT-TV News, the Tennessee Department of Transportation, Highway Patrol and state lawmakers came together Tuesday to put an end to TDOT help trucks being hit responding to people on the side of the road. **Broadcast:** 11/02/23 **Code:** 9341 **Duration:** 1:05 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 11/03/23.

**WGSN News: “Update on Newport By-Pass Project”** As recently reported by the Newport Plain Talk, construction is continuing on the State Route 35 (US Highway 321) Newport Bypass, extending from

State Route 9 (US 70) to near St. Tide Hollow Road. State Route 35 is a major corridor between Greeneville to Maryville. The Newport Bypass is being constructed to create a safer, more efficient route for SR 35 traffic to pass through Newport... **Broadcast:** 12/06/23 **Code:** 9332 **Duration:** :55 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 12/07/23.

- D. **WGSN News: "Knox County BOE Approves Land Purchase"** According to WVLT-TV News, on Wednesday, the Knox Co. Board of Education voted to approve \$5 million to buy land that they wanted to use to build a new school in Farragut. The board has been searching for land for more than a year to help address overcrowding issues in schools . **Broadcast:** 10/05/23 **Code:** 9340 **Duration:** :55 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 10/06/23.

**WGSN News: "\$1.4 Million Federal Grant for Roane State"** As reported by WBIR-TV News, Roane State Community College is developing a nuclear technology program with assistance from a \$1.4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. The program is intended to help train and prepare students working to enter the nuclear field. **Broadcast:** 11/13/23 **Code:** 9311 **Duration:** 1:07 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 11/14/23.

**WGSN News: "Ed Foundation to Assist with Playground Equipment Funding"** As reported by WVLT-TV News, the Knox Education Foundation will work with Knox County Schools to provide new and updated playgrounds to elementary schools. Officials said the district has seen challenges keeping them updated for the past 30 years. Parents within the Knox County School system and the schools were initially raising money for updated playgrounds. The Foundation said fixing the playgrounds would cost \$4.5 million. Officials said as of Monday they have \$2.2 million.. **Broadcast:** 12/05/23 **Code:** 9320 **Duration:** 0:56 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 12/06/23.

- E. **WGSN News: "Malibu Boats to Expand in Roane County"** On Monday Gov. Bill Lee, Department of Economic and Community Development Commissioner Stuart C. McWhorter and Malibu Boats officials announced the company will invest \$75 million to expand manufacturing operations in East Tennessee. Malibu Boats will create 770 new jobs in Roane County over the next five years as the company locates some of its Cobalt boat brand production in an existing facility at the Roane Regional Business and Technology Park." **Broadcast:** 10/03/23 **Code:** 9322 **Duration:** 0:57 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 10/04/23.

**WGSN News: "Axle Logistics Announces Knoxville Expansion"** Gov. Bill Lee, Department of Economic and Community Development Commissioner Stuart C. McWhorter and Axle Logistics, LLC officials have announced the company will invest \$37.9 million to expand logistics operations at its Knoxville headquarters. Axle Logistics will create 651 new jobs in Knox County over the next five years, nearly tripling its total headcount in Tennessee. **Broadcast:** 11/28/23 **Code:** 9322 **Duration:** 0:45 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 11/29/23.

**WGSN News: "New Knoxville Stadium Taking Shape"** WATE-TV News reported that six months after the groundbreaking ceremony for the \$114-million multiuse stadium, the future home of the Knoxville Smokies and One Knoxville SC is coming to life. While utility work at the site near downtown and the Old City began in April 2022, Wednesday marked exactly six months from June's groundbreaking ceremony. **Broadcast:** 12/14/23 **Code:** 9341 **Duration:** 0:56 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 12/15/23.

- F. **WGSN News: "Harshbarger : E TN Family Can Stay in the U.S."** First District Congresswoman Diana Harshbarger released the following statement on the Romeike family. : "Good news! ICE has granted a one-year stay of removal for the Romeike family. My colleagues in Congress, beginning with those on the Judiciary Committee, now have time to consider my bill, H.R. 5423. This bill would grant the Romeikes

permanent residency. I appreciate that so many East Tennesseans were among the 100,000 Americans who petitioned support. **Broadcast:** 10/06/23 **Code:** 9350 **Duration:** :43 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 10/09/23.

**WGSN News: "E TN State Rep. Urges Caution on Interstate"** As reported by WVLT-TV News, the Tennessee Department of Transportation, Highway Patrol and state lawmakers came together Tuesday to put an end to TDOT help trucks being hit responding to people on the side of the road. The message for Tennessee drivers is clear from East Tennessee Representative Jeremy Faison. "Tennessee is not paying attention. 33 of these vehicles have been hit this year; these help vehicles. I just want to look at people and say wake up, pay attention.". **Broadcast:** 11/02/23 **Code:** 9341 **Duration:** 1:05 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 11/03/23.

**WGSN News: "Harshbarger's Staff Delivers Surplus Books to E TN Schools"** Last week week, staff from the office of First District U.S. Representative Diana Harshbarger visited schools and libraries throughout East Tennessee to deliver books in partnership with the Library of Congress' Surplus Books Program.. **Broadcast:** 12/12/23 **Code:** 9321 **Duration:** 1:08 **Airing:** 17:04:04 and 7:04:04 12/13/23.