

**Quarterly Issues/Program List  
For the Period April 1 – June 30, 2019**

**ROANOKE RAPIDS**

**WUNP-TV 36**

Submitted by Susan Sluss Poorman  
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This report documents the significant issues ascertained within the 12 present transmitter areas The University of North Carolina Center for Public Television for April, May, June 2019 period.

## **Background**

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requires that each licensee ascertain the significant issues within its community each quarter in a manner it deems most effective.

The information extracted is used for research and planning by the program and production departments of The Center. Provided in this report is a list of programs broadcast which represent the most significant treatment of the enumerated community issues.

Quarterly reports are maintained and filed with each licensee's public file.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
CENTER FOR PUBLIC TELEVISION**

**QUARTERLY ISSUES/PROGRAMS LIST  
FOR THE PERIOD APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2019  
STATEWIDE LIST OF MOST SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

AGING	Financing retirement, healthy aging
CRIME/LEGAL ISSUES/ LAW ENFORCEMENT	Gun violence and control, consumer protection, cybersecurity
ECONOMY	The state of the economy, financial security, economic development and developing new industries, trade and tariffs, employment, economic impact of local, state, and federal budgets, cost and funding for hurricane recovery, tourism
EDUCATION	Quality public education, school safety against gun violence, teacher pay and retention, May teacher rally, school funding
ENVIRONMENT	Solid waste disposal and recycling, Atlantic Coast Pipeline, air and water quality, climate change, coastal protection, Duke Energy coal ash cleanup
HEALTH/HEALTH CARE	Mental health, Medicaid expansion, healthy lifestyle, quality and affordability of health care and insurance, cost of prescription medicine, opioid epidemic and responsibility
HOUSING	Affordable housing, homelessness
LOCAL AND NATIONAL POLITICS/ GOVERNMENT	Zoning, annexation & incorporation, partisanship within government, U.S. Supreme Court and redistricting lawsuit
MILITARY	Services for military families, military spending
MINORITIES/CIVIL RIGHTS	Race relations, immigration policies and separation of immigrant children from parents, status of detention facilities
POVERTY/HUNGER	Food insecurity, childhood poverty, economic mobility
TRANSPORTATION	Road and bridge construction & maintenance, traffic congestion, highway construction, light rail construction

## **Quarterly Issues/Program List For the Period April, May, June 2019**

### **1. ECONOMY**

#### **NC Spin**

Airdate: 05/24/19  
Airtime: 7:30 p.m.  
Length: 30 Minutes  
Format: Discussion

The panelists discussed, among other topics, the travel and tourism industry in North Carolina. In addition to Brad Crone, who was sitting in for host Tom Campbell, was Becki Gray, John Hood, Rob Schofeld, and Howard Lee.

#### **PBS Newshour**

Airdate: 04/04/19  
Airtime: 6:00 p.m.  
Length: 60 Minutes  
Format: News

The U.S. economy has created jobs for over 100 consecutive months, and unemployment is near a 50-year low. Still, President Donald Trump is vocal about his belief that the Federal Reserve is holding the economy back from stronger growth. William Brangham talked to David Wessel with the Brookings Institution about March jobs numbers and indications economic growth is slowing.

#### **Front Row with Marc Rotterman**

Airdate: 05/24/19  
Airtime: 8:30 p.m.  
Length: 30 Minutes  
Format: Discussion

Host Marc Rotterman talked with the panel, among other issues, about Hurricane Matthew spending being under review. On the panel was Donna King an anchor with WPTF Radio News, former State Representative Ed Hanes, political analyst Joe Stewart, and Nick Ochsner with WBTV- Charlotte.

#### **ncImpact**

Airdate: 06/22/19  
Airtime: 10:30 a.m.  
Length: 30 minutes  
Format: Public Affairs

Anita Brown-Graham hosted a town hall at Western Carolina University on the growing outdoor industry and economy in Southwestern North Carolina.

**ncImpact**

Airdate: 04/18/19  
Airtime: 7:30 P.M.  
Length: 30 minutes  
Format: Public Affairs

Anita Brown-Graham looked at how investment in a renewable economy can impact our state's rural areas given that renewable energy is increasingly championed as a new economy that brings jobs and energy security to a community while combating climate change.

**ncImpact**

Airdate: 05/30/19  
Airtime: 7:30 P.M.  
Length: 30 minutes  
Format: Public Affairs

*ncImpact* hosted a town hall at UNC-Pembroke on the challenges of long-term disaster recovery, focusing on the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew and Hurricane Florence in Lumberton County. Anita Brown-Graham hosted.

**PBS Newshour**

Airdate: 05/10/19  
Airtime: 6:00 p.m.  
Length: 60 Minutes  
Format: News

The trade war between the world's two biggest economies is escalating, as China announced it would raise tariffs on \$60 billion worth of U.S. imports, in response to tariffs President Trump levied. Trump remained confident about the U.S. economy's overall strength, saying, "I love the position we're in." But will American consumers? Judy Woodruff talked to *The Wall Street Journal's* Greg Ip.

**PBS Newshour**

Airdate: 05/30/19  
Airtime: 6:00 p.m.  
Length: 60 Minutes  
Format: News

President Trump has long praised the use of tariffs, but his new threat to Mexico took many people by surprise. Trump said he would levy a 5 percent tariff on Mexican imports as of June 10 unless the country curbs immigration to the U.S. The proposal drew widespread bipartisan criticism from lawmakers, who predicted U.S. consumers would bear its cost. Yamiche Alcindor joined Anna Nawaz to discuss.

## 2. EDUCATION

### **NC Spin**

Airdate: 05/03/19  
Airtime: 7:30 p.m.  
Length: 30 Minutes  
Format: News

Host Tom Campbell and panelists discussed the teacher rally in Raleigh. Panelists included Bev Perdue, John Hood, Chris Fitzsimon, and Leo Daughtry.

### **PBS Newshour**

Airdate: 04/19/19  
Airtime: 6:00 p.m.  
Length: 60 Minutes  
Format: News

New teacher strikes and walkouts are making headlines this year, but the issues they are raising are familiar. Educators are especially concerned about pay, school resources, growing responsibilities, testing policies and the role of charter schools. John Yang talked to two of the 2016 Teachers of the Year, Nate Bowling and Shawn Sheehan, about challenges and frustrations facing their profession.

### **PBS Newshour**

Airdate: 05/08/19  
Airtime: 6:00 p.m.  
Length: 60 Minutes  
Format: News

Two students at a high school outside Denver allegedly opened fire during class killing another student. In North Carolina just a few days earlier, two students were killed and four injured by a gunman at UNC Charlotte. Amid a pattern of school violence that has become all too familiar, Judy Woodruff talked to John Ferrugia of Denver's Rocky Mountain PBS and Education Week's Evie Blad.

## 3. ENVIRONMENT

### **Front Row with Marc Rotterman**

Airdate: 04/05/19  
Airtime: 8:30 p.m.  
Length: 30 Minutes  
Format: Discussion

Host Marc Rotterman talked with his panel, among other issues, about Duke Energy ordered to remove coal ash. On the panel was Mitch Kokai of the John Locke Foundation, Democratic strategist Morgan Jackson, political analyst Joe Stewart and Donna King with WPTF Radio News.

## **NC Spin**

Airdate: 04/12/19  
Airtime: 7:30 p.m.  
Length: 30 Minutes  
Format: News

Host Tom Campbell and panelists discussed, among other issues, energy matters including asking who should pay for the coal ash cleanup. Panelists were Howard Lee, Chris Fitzsimon, Becki Gray and John Hood.

## **PBS Newshour**

Airdate: 04/27/19  
Airtime: 6:00 p.m.  
Length: 60 Minutes  
Format: News

The U.S. has experienced its wettest 12-month period on record. Scientists warn that climate change is causing more intense storms, resulting in increased flooding risk for millions of Americans living near rivers and along the coasts. How can vulnerable communities prepare? Special correspondent Cat Wise reported on a radical approach some are exploring: relocation of the towns themselves.

## **4. HEALTH/HEALTH CARE**

### **Front Row with Marc Rotterman**

Airdate: 04/12 & 26/19  
Airtime: 8:30 p.m.  
Length: 30 Minutes  
Format: Discussion

On the 12<sup>th</sup>, host Marc Rotterman led the panel in a discussion on Medicaid expansion as well as measles outbreaks. On the panel were Mitch Kokai of the John Locke Foundation, former State Representative Ed Hanes, Jonah Kaplan the Senior Political Reporter for ABC News 11 and Donna King with WPTF Radio News. On the 26<sup>th</sup>, Rotterman talked with the panel about Governor Cooper doubling down on Medicaid expansion. On the panel was Mitch Kokai of the John Locke Foundation, Democratic Strategist Morgan Jackson, Nelson Dollar the Senior Policy Adviser to the NC Speaker and Nick Ochsner with WBTV-Charlotte.

### **PBS Newshour**

Airdate: 04/23/19  
Airtime: 6:00 p.m.  
Length: 60 Minutes  
Format: News

Amid the ongoing opioid epidemic, drug manufacturers, doctors and pharmacists have all come under fire. But it's a drug distributor, a company called RDC, at the center of a new federal criminal case that equates its business operations with illegal drug trafficking. William Brangham talked to *The Washington Post's* Lenny Bernstein about whether the new charges could change the opioid business.

### **NC Spin**

Airdate: 04/12/19  
Airtime: 7:30 p.m.  
Length: 30 Minutes  
Format: News

Host Tom Campbell and panelists discussed, among other issues, current healthcare issues including a proposal to expand Medicaid. Panelists were Howard Lee, Chris Fitzsimon, Becki Gray and John Hood.

### **NC Spin**

Airdate: 06/14/19  
Airtime: 7:30 p.m.  
Length: 30 Minutes  
Format: News

Host Tom Campbell and panelists discussed, among other issues, the state's opioid crisis and the summit held to discuss it. Panelists were Rob Schofeld, Rufus Edmisten, Becki Gray and John Hood.

### **Front Row with Marc Rotterman**

Airdate: 05/31/19  
Airtime: 8:30 p.m.  
Length: 30 Minutes  
Format: Discussion

Host Marc Rotterman and the panel discussed the nation's first opioid trial. On the panel were Donna King with WPTF Radio News, Political Analyst Joe Stewart, Jonah Kaplan with ABC News 11, and Mitch Kokai with John Locke Foundation.

### **ncImpact**

Airdate: 05/02/19  
Airtime: 8:00 p.m.  
Length: 30 minutes  
Format: Public Affairs

The National Rural Health Association recently cited transportation as a key policy concern when it came to older residents in rural areas without access to a car or public transportation. *ncImpact* featured a new program that is filling this gap and having an impact on health outcomes.

### **PBS Newshour**

Airdate: 05/14/19  
Airtime: 6:00 p.m.  
Length: 60 Minutes  
Format: News

U.S. consumers often turn to generic versions of prescription drugs to keep costs down, but dozens of states are now suing manufacturers of these drugs, saying they illegally fixed prices and divided market share. Affected drugs include medicines used to treat everything from minor infections to HIV. John Yang got reaction from Chip Davis, CEO of the Association for Accessible Medicines.

**5. LOCAL AND NATIONAL POLITICS/GOVERNMENT**

**NC Spin**

Airdate: 06/28/19  
Airtime: 7:30 p.m.  
Length: 30 Minutes  
Format: News

Host Tom Campbell and panelists discussed, among other issues, the state's budget and the U.S. Supreme Court's decision on North Carolina's legislative redistricting. Panelists were Chris Fitzsimon, Howard Lee, Patrick Sebastian, and Becki Gray.

**6. MINORITIES/CIVIL RIGHTS**

**PBS Newshour**

Airdate: 04/25/19  
Airtime: 6:00 p.m.  
Length: 60 Minutes  
Format: News

A DHHS inspector general's report found it likely thousands more children and parents were separated at the U.S.-Mexico border than previously thought. The Trump administration said it needed up to two years to identify the families, but a federal court granted six months instead. The ACLU's Lee Gelernt told Yamiche Alcindor why the judge's decision prompts the issue's "most important moment."

**Front Row with Marc Rotterman**

Airdate: 05/17/19  
Airtime: 8:30 p.m.  
Length: 30 Minutes  
Format: Discussion

Host Marc Rotterman and the panel discuss the president's immigration plan. On the panel was Mitch Kokai of the John Locke Foundation, Former State Representative Ed Hanes, Jonah Kaplan the Senior Political Reporter for ABC News 11 and Donna King an anchor with WPTF Radio News.

**7. POVERTY/HUNGER**

**PBS Newshour**

Airdate: 04/01/19  
Airtime: 6:00 p.m.  
Length: 60 Minutes  
Format: News

Food pantries are appearing more frequently in a surprising type of location: colleges and universities. More than 700 educational institutions belong to a national nonprofit aiming to alleviate food insecurity among college students. From PBS station WTTW in Chicago, Brandis Friedman reported on how City Colleges and the Greater Chicago Food Depository are providing nutrition along with knowledge.

**WUNP-TV ROANOKE RAPIDS CHANNEL 36  
SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

**For the Period April 1 – June 30, 2019**

The licensee in the WUNP-TV area has identified the following significant issues during the past three months of the licensing year:

**AGING**

Financing retirement, healthy aging

**CRIME/LEGAL ISSUES/LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Consumer protection, gun violence and control, cybersecurity

**ECONOMY**

Financial security, economic development and new industries, tourism, trade and tariffs, economic impact of local, state and federal budgets

**EDUCATION**

Quality of public education, achievement gaps, school safety, school funding, teacher pay and retention, May teacher rally, city zoning and impact of Roanoke Rapids Graded School District, increased student enrollment

**EMPLOYMENT**

Job creation, unemployment, wages, more jobs in rural regions

**ENVIRONMENT**

Solid waste disposal, air and water quality, climate change, Duke Energy coal ash cleanup, weather preparedness

**HEALTH/HEALTH CARE**

Healthy lifestyle, Medicaid expansion, cost of prescription medicine, opioid epidemic and responsibility, quality and affordability of health care and insurance

**HOUSING**

Housing development

**LOCAL AND NATIONAL POLITICS/GOVERNMENT**

U.S. Supreme Court and redistricting lawsuit, Roanoke Rapids Theatre bond amendment, Voter IDs and voting precincts, lack of property upkeep, Enfield's growth and expansion, Northampton County's Strategic Plan, recreation expansion, water expansion projects, tax rates, feasibility of new county courthouse

**MINORITIES/CIVIL RIGHTS**

Race relations, immigration policies and separation of immigrant children from parents, status of detention facilities

**POVERTY/HUNGER**

Childhood poverty, food insecurity, economic mobility

**TRANSPORTATION**

Road construction and maintenance, mass transit, Roanoke Avenue facelift