

WITN-TV

Greenville, New Bern, Washington

QUARTERLY LISTING OF COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

October 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

Community Action/Social Concerns

“Eastern NC Cares”

Each month on WITN.com & social media

Each month WITN partners with Ricci Law Firm as they donate \$1,000 to a local organization. We help to promote the organization being recognized for that specific month.

“Toys for Tots”

November – December

Each year, WITN operates as a designated toy drop off for Toys for Tots. The toy drive helps thousands of families each holiday season. In addition to being a toy drop off, the station promotes the donations on-air, online and on social media.

“No Shave November”

November

Several members of WITN have participated in growing out their beards during November to raise awareness and money for cancer research. This year, the team partnered with the local hospital system to donate the money raised to cancer patients in Eastern Carolina.

“Marginalized community fears impact of proposed crypto mining facility”

October 29, 2021 – WITN News at 6 – 3 minutes

As a local community awaited the Pitt County Board of Commissioners’ vote on a proposed building site for a crypto mining facility, many reached out to WITN to ensure their voices were heard. Belvoir Elementary School parents, area residents, and advocacy group representatives were heard speaking of what they called injustices to impoverished areas of the community.

“Fundraising lunch held to benefit deputy shot in line of duty”

October 2021 – WITN News at 6 – 2.5 minutes

WITN followed the latest updates throughout the month of October, after a local deputy was shot. We provided updates on the deputy’s condition, his release from the hospital, and community events to honor him.

“Lawsuit: Andrew Brown ‘likely unarmed’ at time of shooting”

April – November 2021e – Throughout All Shows – 30 seconds

WITN continues to follow updates regarding the fatal police-involved shooting of Andrew Brown, Jr. Who was shot in April of 2021. The latest update came from a lawsuit filed claiming officers knew Brown was likely unarmed at the time of the warrant.

“Greenville teen defies medical odds and celebrates her birthday”

November 14, 2021 – WITN News at 6 – 2 minutes

One Greenville family is celebrating the life of their teenager, Jazmine Carr. Family says children with Spinal Muscular Atrophy Type I, typically only live to two years old, but Carr celebrated her 13th birthday with friends, family and neighbors during an drive-by celebration.

“Kinston business owner organizes Christmas Eve food & toy giveaway”

December 24, 2021 – WITN News at 6 – 2 minutes

A business owner in Kinston spent his Christmas Eve shoulder to shoulder with volunteers giving back to his community with toys and a cookout. Michael Washington wanted to share the Christmas spirit with folks outside of his auto detailing business on Queen Street by grilling out with donated pork and chicken.

Crime & Public Safety

“Crime Stoppers”

August 2021 – Present

Local officials come in to the WITN studio to record clips for our station to air. These messages usually pertain to current cases, tips or to inform the public of the purpose of Crime Stoppers.

“POLICE: Officer witnesses Greenville mom stabbing her own daughter”

October 11, 2021 – WITN News at 6 – 30 seconds

A young mother is in jail after police say she was caught stabbing her one-year-old daughter in front of an officer.

“Church missionaries react to kidnapping Haiti”

October 18, 2021 – WITN News at 5 – 3 minutes

WITN’s Hannah Jeffries spoke to a local church who had taken mission trips to Haiti in the past. The church members and leaders spoke about their feelings regarding the kidnapping of Americans in Haiti.

“NC fan recalls events firsthand from AstroWorld”

November 8, 2021 – WITN News at 6 – 3 minutes

WITN’s Deric Rush spoke to a North Carolina resident who attended the fatal AstroWorld Festival in Texas where 10 people were killed. WITN also spoke to local officials about how a situation like this should have been handled.

“UPDATE: Greenville police continuing to search for Tuesday night shooter”

November 10, 2021 – WITN News at 11 – 30 seconds

WITN reporters remained in contact with local police following a shooting investigation. Updates regarding the active search were published both to the website and social media feeds.

“Greenville Police investigating after woman finds Christmas gifts stolen from car”

December 24, 2021- WITN News at 11 – 2 minutes

Since August, Samantha Baker had been collecting Christmas gifts that she said were at least \$900 worth of stuff for her three daughters in the trunk of her car. "Video games, clothes, giftcards, you name it, I had it in there," Baker said. "Toys, Lol dolls, you know how expensive the Lol dolls is. I had all that in there." Baker said she kept it in the trunk and planned to surprise her daughters on Christmas Eve. But she said her heart sank on Friday when she opened her trunk in Greenville and found all that she purchased gone.

Education

"Teacher of the Week"

Each week on WITN News at Sunrise – about 2 - 5 minutes

Each week WITN acknowledges one teacher in Eastern Carolina for their work in and out of the classroom. These are determined based on nominations from members of the community, whether that be students, parents and/or staff at local schools.

"1 in 3 NC third-graders held back due to low reading comprehension skills"

October 7, 2021 – WITN News at 5:30 – 2.5 minutes

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction released new data showing an alarming number of third-graders in our state falling behind in literacy. WITN's Justin Lundy spoke to local school officials about this report, and how they are combating the problem.

"Onslow County community reacts to guns in schools"

October 19, 2021 – WITN News at Noon – 30 seconds

Multiple schools in North Carolina had reports of students bringing guns to school this year, including one middle school student in Eastern Carolina. WITN got community reaction to this ongoing situation.

"D.H. Conley student says she and six other girls were sexually assaulted"

November 4, 2021 – WITN News at 6 – 2.5 minutes

A student at D.H. Conley High School claims that another student sexually assaulted her, and when she reported the assault to school leaders, no action was taken.

"Parents say their special needs children bullied in Onslow County Public Schools"

November 9, 2021 – WITN News at 6 – 3 minutes

Several parents of special needs children had reached out to WITN reporters with complaints of bullying and mistreatment of their children in the school system. WITN talked to concerned parents as well as school leaders.

Pancakes for Pie, Craven Partners in Education

November 20th - December 5th, 2022

WITN partners annually with Craven County Partners in Education (PIE) for the Pancakes for PIE event which raises money for Craven County School. We promote the event on air and on social media.

Environment & Weather

“First Alert Weather Blog”

April 2021 - present

The WITN Weather Authority team began a weather blog to engage with viewers and add fun information that may not make it into typical forecasts.

“First Alert Weather Day”

May 2021 – present

From severe thunderstorms and flooding to hurricanes and tropical storms, WITN works to prepare the residents of Eastern Carolina for every potential weather condition. We have begun utilizing “First Alert Weather Days” to help viewers prepare and stay informed regarding the weather conditions across Eastern Carolina.

“Beachgoers monitor rip currents on Carolina coast”

October 1, 2021 – WITN News at 5:30 – 1.5 minutes

As storms continued to rage in the tropics, WITN monitored dangerous rip current conditions along the coast.

“Scientists weigh in on latest United Nations climate report”

October 21, 2021 – WITN News at 5 – 1.5 minutes

The United Nations released a new report showing many governments remain out of sync with the warning of climate scientists. WITN spoke with experts, who say without everyone being on the same page, the impacts we're already seeing from climate change could get worse.

"NC Attorney General awards ENC hundreds of thousands in environmental grant money"

November 9, 2021 – WITN News at 6 – 2.5 minutes

Attorney General Josh Stein visited Eastern Carolina and awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in environmental grant money. The City of New Bern received \$134,000 and will use the money to minimize flooding in their Greater Duffyfield neighborhood.

Health/Medical

"VIDANT HEALTH: Five managers, doctors, providers miss vaccine deadline"

October 1, 2021 – throughout shows – 30 seconds

Vidant Health says all but a handful of managers, physicians, and credentialed providers complied with its vaccine requirement. The hospital system says only five employees were not in compliance.

"Onslow County works to build more emergency medical service stations"

October 28, 2021 – WITN News at 6 – 3 minutes

The Onslow County government and its emergency services are planning to begin a building project that will provide more emergency medical service stations throughout the county.

"Greenville pediatrician prepares sons for COVID-19 vaccinations"

November 3, 2021 WITN News at 11 – 2.5 minutes

In November, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended Pfizer's lower-dosage COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5-11. Our Maddie Kerth spoke to a local pediatrician as she prepared to have her two sons vaccinated.

"State daily COVID-19 cases rise 62% from previous day"

November 17, 2021 – WITN First at Four – 30 seconds

Throughout the pandemic, WITN has provided regular updates regarding COVID-19 cases and deaths.

American Red Cross/WITN Sponsored Blood Drive

December 1-22,2021

WITN partner with the American Red Cross to put on a Holiday Blood Drive, promoting the event on air, digitally, and on social media.

Local Economy/Jobs

“New bill allows distilleries to sell alcohol any day of the week”

October 1, 2021 – WITN News at 5 – 1.5 minutes

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper recently signed a bill that modifies the current alcohol laws in our state. One of those changes allows you to buy liquor bottles any day of the week.

“New Bern business owners prepare for upcoming Mumfest”

October 6, 2021 – WITN First at Four – 2 minutes

Each year the city of New Bern hosts its annual MumFest. Last year the festival was adapted due to COVID-19, but this year festivities returned to normal. Business owners shared how they were preparing for the busy weeks to come.

“Employ a Veteran Week’ job fair held in New Bern”

November 9, 2021 – WITN News at 5 – 1 minute

Twelve Veteran-friendly employers were on-site to help find Veterans looking for work. This was one of many job fairs WITN covered during the Employ a Veteran Week.

“Pitt County gets first interstate highway”

November 16, 2021 – WITN News at Noon – 30 seconds

The state Department of Transportation announced they have received federal approval for a big section of U.S. 264 to become Interstate 587. The new interstate runs between the I-95/I-795 interchange in Wilson County to the Highway 11 interchange just outside of Greenville.

New food commercialization center in Ayden NC.

December 5th – WITN News at Noon – 1 minute

The center aims to be a catch-all food processing facility, where farmers, manufactures and other business owners can use its resources to prepare food for markets.