

WACHFOX news

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January 10, 2020

QUARTERLY ISSUES / PROGRAMS LIST

There follows a listing of the significant issues responded to by
WACH-TV - Columbia, South Carolina
along with the most significant programming treatment for the period of

October 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019
4th Quarter | 2019

The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

This list is by no means exhaustive.

ISSUE: PUBLIC SAFETY & CRIME PREVENTION

News at Ten Cover Stories

Broadcast Date: October 10, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Authorities Warn about State Fair Human Trafficking

Richland Sheriff's Deputies warn girls 13-16 to take caution when going to the SC State Fair. They said that human traffickers prey on young girls and that Richland County was on a list of places most affected by trafficking. Deputies said they would be patrolling the event that was expected to have more than 1,000 people a day.

Broadcast Date: October 18, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Conversations with Law

A public gathering in Columbia kicks off a series of community discussion on law and justice. The Department of Juvenile Justice, SLED, The Dept. of Corrections were a part of the event that was supposed to shed light on the inner workings of the criminal justice system. The events were scheduled to go until November 7, 2019.

Broadcast Date: October 28, 2019

Source: Local

Description: SC Sex Offender Rules for Halloween

SC required sex offenders to stay inside with their outside lights off and not give out trick-or-treat candy on Halloween. A Dept. of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services spokesman said that the requirement starts at 5 p.m. on October 31 and ends at 9 p.m. The spokesman also said that some counties require offenders to go to a central location to be supervised. He said agents would be checking offenders in all 46 counties.

Broadcast Date: November 19, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Potomac Rapist found in Conway

Police found a man in Conway who they said tried to rape a woman in DC. He killed her by bludgeoning her to death. The man was wanted for years in several other rape cases and another murder. He was found through DNA testing and lived in the Conway area.

Broadcast Date: November 28, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Gambling Busts in Columbia

Authorities in Columbia received a tip about a gambling house in Columbia. When deputies arrived, four people were unloading machines off a truck. Deputies seized money and weapons. The captain said seizing that much is very rare.

Broadcast Date: December 5, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Gun Ordinance in Columbia

State prosecutor issued a city ordinance that restricts guns in Columbia. The ordinance was supposed to deal with 'ghost guns' which are illegal guns with the serial number removed. Those guns are often used by people not allowed to own guns. The mayor disagreed with the ordinance.

Broadcast Date: December 17, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Child Bus Crash

A bus with 37 children was hit by two cars, leaving one child injured. The injured child's mother intends to speak out and advocate for better school bus safety after almost losing her child to the incident.

Broadcast Date: December 24, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Porch Pirates

This was one of several porch pirate cases over a span of a few months. This case a man walks onto a porch and steals a package but is recorded in the process. The package was a Christmas gift. The woman filed a report with Richland County but says they had not answered her.

Public Service Announcements – Public Safety & Crime Prevention

The station aired Public Service Announcements that pertained to Public Safety and Crime issues. Announcements were in varying length (:10, :15, :20, :30, and :60); each PSA aired multiple times between October 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019:

10/1 – 12/31	“Make the Call” Health Resources and Services Administration	:30
12/31	“Playoffs :15” Project Roadblock	:15
12/30	“Playoffs :30” Project Roadblock	:30
12/29	“Selfies :15” Project Roadblock	:15
12/31	“Selfies :30” Project Roadblock	:30
12/29	“Holiday Party :15” Project Roadblock	:15
12/28	“Holiday Party :30” Project Roadblock	:30

ISSUE: MINORITY ISSUES

Good Day Cover Stories

Broadcast Date: October 3, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Racial Disparities in Traffic Stops in Charleston

Police Department in Charleston conducted an audit and found racial disparities in traffic stops. The audit focused on five areas, one of those being use of force. Auditors were hired by City Council and found 61% of African Americans were involved in cases where extreme force was used.

Broadcast Date: October 16, 2019

Source: Local

Description: SC State Fair Celebrates 54 Years of Integration

The South Carolina State Fair was segregated from the 1890s to 1965. The 'Colored State Fair' was held a week after the regular fair until 1965 when the SC State Fair became integrated. The 'Colored State Fair' continued under the name 'Palmetto State Fair' until 1971.

Broadcast Date: November 4, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Ribbon Cutting at Disabled-Friendly Park

The ribbon cutting ceremony and grand-opening of Carraway park happened. The playground was described as all-inclusive even for kids with disabilities. Two local schools with special education classes were set to attend along with elected officials.

Broadcast Date: November 19, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Epworth Runaways

Police were asking for assistance finding nearly 20 runaway teenagers. Half of them were from Epworth Children's Home. Some of the children had been missing since April 2019 and the president of the home said that the number of missing kids was higher than in the past. Local authorities gave statements on the importance of locating the kids who could be at family homes nearby.

Broadcast Date: December 7, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Uber Sexual Assaults; Safety

There was an increase in sexual assaults that happened in Ubers in 2018. The story was about college women who use the rideshare app to get home safely instead of drinking and driving and safety precautions to take when using the service. There were 1,440 cases of sexual assault reported by Uber in 2017 and 1,560 in 2018.

Broadcast Date: December 17, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Radio Dies

The well-known South Carolina man featured in an award-winning film has died. James 'Radio' Kennedy died at the age of 73. He was known for carrying around a transistor radio to football games at TL Hanna High School in the low country.

Broadcast Date: December 25, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Menorah Lighting

WACH covered a Hanukkah celebration in Columbia at the Chabad house. People of all faiths were invited to attend. The menorah lighting symbolizes universal enlightenment and miracles to those who follow and practice the beliefs of Judaism.

Public Service Announcements – Minority Issues

The station aired Public Service Announcements that pertained to Minority issues. Announcements were in varying length (:10, :15, :20, :30, and :60); each PSA aired multiple times between October 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019:

11/2 – 12/31	“Better Together” Fisher House – Columbia, SC	:30
11/2 – 12/24	“Delivery” Fisher House – Columbia, SC	:30
10/1 – 12/24	“Mark :30” Wounded Warrior Project	:30
10/6 – 12/24	“Sean :30” Wounded Warrior Project	:30
10/1 – 12/28	“Jason :60” Wounded Warrior Project	:60
10/1 – 12/31	“Chris :60” Wounded Warrior Project	:60

ISSUE: EDUCATION

News at Ten Cover Stories

Broadcast Date: October 2, 2019

Source: Local

Description: SC Schools Rated

South Carolina schools received ratings from the Dept. of Education. Overall, 77% of the schools remained the same or improved. The percentage of diploma earners who were college or career ready increase by 5.3%.

Broadcast Date: October 22, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Forum on Vaping

Midlands authorities hosted a forum on the dangers of vaping at White Knoll High School. The forum had speakers that addressed the increase in teen vaping and substance abuse. A mother and son spoke about how vaping had affected the son's life and the dangers of nicotine addiction.

Broadcast Date: October 24, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Gray Collegiate Honored for highest rating ever

Gray Collegiate Academy was given an 'Excellent' rating, the highest the school has ever gotten by The Charter Institute at Erskine College. Gray was one of five other midlands schools with an excellent rating. They had a graduation rate of 99.2% which exceeded the state average by nearly 20%. Gray is one of 17 charter schools authorized by the Charter Institute at Erskine.

Broadcast Date: October 24, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Educators try to Recruit More Black Male Teachers

Educators from all over the midlands came together to figure out how they could get more black men to become teachers. Statistics showed 2% of teachers across the country. USC held the think-tank style event. Experts said that more educators that reflect the student population will help the learning process.

Broadcast Date: November 14, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Lawmakers investigate Presidential Process for USC

State lawmakers looked into the process of hiring the President of USC Bob Caslen. This came after controversy surrounding Governor Henry McMaster's role in the process. Some say the McMaster pressured the Board of Trustees into selecting Caslen as the next president.

Broadcast Date: November 15, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Scams during Holidays

Authorities warned that SC ranked 9th in the nation when it comes to scams and fraud. Wallet hub ranked SC 5th worst for identity theft and fraud. Local authorities gave tips on how to prevent being scammed during the upcoming holiday season.

Broadcast Date: December 2, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Recycle Cyber Monday

Meteorologist does a package on Cyber Monday and the excess of packages that will need to be recycled. We ran tips on how to effectively recycle cardboard and why people should.

Broadcast Date: December 5, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Anti-Bullying Forum

School officials at multiple schools in the midlands teamed up to hold an event that brings awareness to bullying. It was held as a competition and students could present raps, poems, stories, essays, etc. that were about bullying.

Broadcast Date: December 17, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Leevy Johnson speaks at USC graduation

A local Columbia lawyer was the keynote speaker at USC's December 2019 graduation. Leevy Johnson was the first black president of SC's Bar. He was also one of the first black men to be elected to the state's general assembly. He spoke about how life also has more to come and that goals are not stops, they are commas because there is always something else to reach for.

Broadcast Date: December 31, 2019

Source: Local

Description: 'Stop the Violence'

Two local men started a movement to steer young people down the right path. The men's organization, 'Stop the Violence' offered several things that young kids can do to stay out of trouble. Cookouts and sports events were just a few of the things offered in the program.

Public Service Announcements - Education

The station aired Public Service Announcements that pertained to Education issues. Announcements were in varying length (:10, :15, :20, :30, and :60); each PSA aired multiple times between October 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019:

10/4 – 12/14	"XQ School Board – Web :30" XQ School Board	:30
10/1 – 12/31	"XQ School Board – Web :60" XQ School Board	:60
10/14 – 12/26	"XQ School Board – Opportunities" XQ School Board	:15
10/1 – 12/30	"XQ School Board – Elected Officials" XQ School Board	:15
10/5 – 10/31	"Read to the Big Game v1" SC Dept. of Education	:30
11/2 – 12/30	"Read to the Big Game v2" SC Dept. of Education	:30
11/1 – 12/25	"SC Reads" SC Dept. of Education	:30

ISSUE: HEALTH SERVICES AND MEDICAL CARE*Good Day Cover Stories***Broadcast Date:** October 8, 2019**Source:** Local/National**Description:** Kroger stops selling E-Cigs

After national scrutiny by President Trump, Kroger announced that they would no longer sell e-cigarettes. This came after the CDC reported that more than 1,000 lung injury cases related to e-cigs since October 1. As of October 7, 2019, there were 22 deaths in 19 states related to e-cigs.

Broadcast Date: October 12, 2019**Source:** Local**Description:** Mammogram Bus during 'Breakfast for a Cause' event

The Columbia Mayor's annual 'Breakfast for a Cause' happened on this day. The campaign is about fighting breast cancer. At this event, former nurse Isabel Law was honored for dedicating her life to educating others and fighting breast cancer. There was a mammogram bus for women to get checked for breast cancer.

Broadcast Date: October 24, 2019**Source:** Local**Description:** Medicine Disposal

Columbia authorities were setting up to places for people to properly dispose of their prescription medicine. Studies showed that keeping unused medicine around the home makes it more susceptible to misuse and abuse. 'National Prescription Take Back Day' was what the event was called. People could drop off medicine at CPD headquarters or the Walmart on Bush River Road from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. over the weekend.

Broadcast Date: November 4, 2019**Source:** Local/National**Description:** Affordable Care Act Health Insurance Payment Decrease

Experts said that people who get their health insurance through the Affordable Care Act may see their monthly payments decrease. Open enrollment was happening and there were more companies offering plans in SC. Some of the plans could lead to cheaper or more expensive monthly bills. They said to look at the premium, deductibles, copays for doctors, prescription drug coverage and maximum out of pocket cost to see if you should enroll in a plan.

Broadcast Date: November 8, 2019**Source:** Local**Description:** Tom Steyer visits Denmark; talks Water Problems

Tom Steyer, a presidential candidate was set to visit Denmark Technical College for his 2020 Water for Humanity Rally. Denmark residents have been dealing with contaminated and unsafe water since 2007 when residents first saw brown water. During the incident, the city treated the issue with a common pool cleaning chemical.

Broadcast Date: November 22, 2019**Source:** Local**Description:** Lung Cancer Awareness

South Carolinians diagnosed with lung cancer were more likely to die from it, according to a study. Estimates said that nearly 4400 people in the state would be diagnosed in 2019 and that SC had one of the lowest survival rates at 19.5%. Health professionals urged those who are at risk to go get screened every year and to stop smoking.

Broadcast Date: December 2, 2019**Source:** Local**Description:** Woman sends PSA for Kidney

We aired a story about a Lexington woman asking for someone to donate a kidney. She was diagnosed with kidney failure in 2018 and was frantically trying to find a kidney before she was permanently left on dialysis. The story mentioned that donors had to be between 18 and 65 and have O or B blood.

Broadcast Date: December 12, 2019

Source: Local

Description: State leaders talk Suicide Prevention

Officials gathered to discuss increasing suicide numbers across the state. Officials said that SC was ranked 26 in the nation in suicide rates and that one person in the state every 10 hours. The solution was to increase training for state agencies on how to handle suicide and create a national number like 911.

Broadcast Date: December 17, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Cancer Fundraiser

Chapin High School held its annual winter fundraiser where students raise money for the community. However, the 2019 fundraiser was for the school's basketball coach who was battling pancreatic cancer at the time and another coach who was fighting cancer. The fundraiser also raised money for three girls injured in a train accident.

Public Service Announcements – Health Services & Medical Care

The station aired Public Service Announcements that pertained to Health Care and Education, child health and teen drug abuse, child safety, and other miscellaneous topics. Announcements were in varying length (:10, :15, :20, :30, and :60); each PSA aired multiple times between October 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019:

10/4 – 12/18	"Epilepsy Foundation :30" Epilepsy Foundation	:30
10/4 – 12/14	"Great Strides :30" Cystic Fibrosis Foundation	:30
10/2 – 12/1	"Great Strides :15" Cystic Fibrosis Foundation	:15
10/5 – 12/17	"Azalea :30" St. Jude Children's Hospitals	:30
10/1 – 11/28	"Luke :60" St. Jude Children's Hospitals	:60

ISSUE: CIVIC RESPONSIBILITIES

News at Ten Cover Stories

Broadcast Date: October 4, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Sumter Schools 'Clear Bag Policy'

Sumter School District begins a 'clear bag policy' for people attending athletic events. The policy allows each person to carry a clear, 12" by 12" tote bag so they can bring in several small items. Medical and diaper bags were not included but were said to be subject to search.

Broadcast Date: October 16, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Richland County gets new Voting Machines

Election Officials said that the new machines would help increase voter transparency. The state election commission spent \$53 million on over 13,000 ballot machines for SC. More than 1,000 ballots in Richland were not counted, the new paper-based system was supposed to fix that.

Broadcast Date: October 22, 2019

Source: Local

Description: First in South Primary Importance

History has shown that the First in the South Primary can make or break a political candidate. WACH talked to a political professor about the history of wins that were greatly affected by the SC primary.

Broadcast Date: November 8, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Sumter Bus Drivers Protest for better pay

Some Sumter School District Bus Drivers were protesting for better pay and other issues. The school district issued a statement saying the shortage of bus drivers delayed some routes. Parents and drivers said it was an ongoing issue and that the district didn't pay enough to retain the drivers.

Broadcast Date: November 17, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Fairfield Coroner Holds Memorial Service

The Fairfield County Coroner held the second annual memorial service for people who had died in the county. In 2019, they honored 188 people one of those was a boy who should have been graduating high school.

Broadcast Date: November 28, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Ft. Jackson trainees get Thanksgiving Dinner

Thousands of soldiers in basic training that could not go home to their families were served a huge Thanksgiving Dinner. Volunteers are the ones who provided and served the meal to the soldiers. Commanders said it was a good time for bonding and becoming a second family.

Broadcast Date: December 2, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Share Your Holiday

Midlands volunteers began teaming up to end hunger over the holidays. Harvest hope said they have about 11,000 volunteers each year that help feed struggling families. They said everyone from different backgrounds like college students and veterans come to help.

Broadcast Date: December 15, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Child with Cancer gives back

A little boy that had cancer and was in remission decided to give goody bags to other children so that they could have a good holiday. The little boy and his mother said they just wanted to make those kids stuck in the hospital feel better about missing the holidays.

Broadcast Date: December 25, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Family Suffers Miscarriage; Gets Surprise

A Ft. Jackson family suffered a miscarriage earlier in the year but was expecting another child in July. Santa came to their house and delivered gifts and took them on a sleigh ride. The American Red Cross and the Ft. Jackson Family Homes organizations helped put everything together.

Public Service Announcements – Civic Responsibilities

The station aired Public Service Announcements that pertained to Civic Responsibilities, including need for volunteerism, community pride, combating littering, and other miscellaneous topics. Announcements were in varying length (:10, :15, :20, :30, and :60); each PSA aired multiple times between October 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019:

10/2 – 12/30	“I Will :15” Army National Guard	:15
10/1 – 12/31	“I Will :30” Army National Guard	:30
10/18 – 12/14	“Pride of the Nation” US Marine Corps	:30
10/28 – 12/21	“America’s Marines” US Marine Corps	:30
10/17 – 12/31	“Anthem” US Marine Corps	:30
10/5 – 12/22	“For us All” US Marine Corps	:30
10/7 – 12/31	“For Country” US Marine Corps	:30
10/28 – 12/21	“America’s Marines” US Marine Corps	:30
7/12– 9/28	“Dear Humans” Best Friends Animal Society	:30
7/6 – 9/30	“Adopt Change” Best Friends Animal Society	:60
10/23 – 12/27	“Empower 4”	:15
10/3 – 12/31	“Empower 2”	:30

ISSUE: Business Growth and Economic Development

Broadcast Date: October 5, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Columbia International University presents new building

Columbia International University presents a new building named after a former university president to the public. The President said that the \$20 million building would also be a hub for the community.

Broadcast Date: October 17, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Senators Discuss Interstate Widening

A group of state Senators studied what SC needed to do to increase the pace of widening interstates. They formed a special subcommittee and discussed the widening of I-85 and I-20. They also discussed a \$1.6 billion plan to untangle malfunction junction.

Broadcast Date: October 22, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Water Pipes Break in Columbia

Officials said a water line buckled under the pressure of a drain line. The other case was fiber optic contractors accidentally drilled into the pip causing it to leak. The City Water Dept. said the pipes may have been showing their age. The city uses around \$80-\$100 million a year on upgrades and improvements to the water infrastructure for the City of Columbia.

Broadcast Date: November 7, 2019

Source: Local

Description: City of Columbia Hosts NCAA Men's and Gets Money

The City of Columbia hosted the first and second rounds of the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament in March. Research by USC showed that Columbia made \$11.3 million for hosting. Research also stated that 245 permanent jobs came from hosting the tournament.

Broadcast Date: November 14, 2019

Source: Local

Description: SC Dept. of Transportation Unveils Expansion Plan for I-20

The SC Dept. of Transportation unveiled phase 2 of their plan to expand I-20 East. Crews were set to begin construction on the 6-mile stretch of the interstate during the following weekend. Drivers were supposed to travel along two lanes while crews work, one lane was an express and the other was for exiting.

Broadcast Date: December 6, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Lunch Debt at Schools

A viewer reached out over parental concern for schools sending debt collection agencies after students with pending lunch debts. The schools we reached out to insisted they did not send any information to debt collectors. The State Dept. said that poverty guidelines determine if schools or students qualify for free lunch.

Broadcast Date: December 18, 2019

Source: Local

Description: USC Alcohol Sales

The University of South Carolina Board of Trustees made the decision to approve the sale of alcoholic beverages at sporting events. The athletic director said that they will increase security to prevent alcohol related problems. There were rules of when the school would stop selling and how much they would charge for the drinks.

Broadcast Date: December 24, 2019

Source: Local

Description: Charleston Tourists not stopped by Flooding

Despite road closures and flooded streets, visitors in Charleston still were around the market area shopping and dining. Shopkeepers reported a slow morning but about midday they had a lot of sales. One of them said that the rain brought in the customers. Some of the shoppers were said to be buying Christmas presents.

Public Service Announcements – Business Growth & Economic Development

The station aired Public Service Announcements that pertained to business and economic development. Announcements were in varying length (:10, :15, :20, :30, and :60); each PSA aired multiple times between October 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019:

10/2 – 12/31	“SC MEP 1” South Carolina Broadcaster Association	:30
10/3 – 12/31	“SC MEP 2” South Carolina Broadcaster Association	:30
10/12 – 12/24	“SC MEP 3” South Carolina Broadcaster Association	:30
10/3 – 12/14	“SC Asphalt Pavement Association” South Carolina Broadcaster Association	:30
10/2 – 12/31	“Waterfowl Migration” US Dept. of Veteran Affairs	:60