

WNCW and WSIF Quarterly Issues and Programs List

WNCW Radio Spindale, North Carolina and WSIF Wilkesboro, North Carolina for the period January 1 through March 31, 2023

Issue Programming

During the past quarter, the issues shown below have been significant to our community. We ran the programs indicated to address them.

Issue: Arts/Literary/Culture

We ran the following program to address it: *Southern Songs and Stories*

Alternating Tuesdays

Time: 8:51 a.m. Duration: 8 min

We ran the following program to address it: *Down the Road on the Blue Ridge Music Trails*

Alternating Tuesdays

Time: 8:51 a.m Duration: 8 min

We ran the following program to address it: *American Songcatcher*

Alternating Tuesdays

Time: 7:51 a.m. duration: 8 min.

We ran the following program to address it:

Appalachian Vibes

Alternating Tuesdays

Time: 7:51 a.m. duration: 8 min.

Information attached:

January

01/03

Appalachian Vibes: Patti Patrice Love – Bocchi talks with Love, the tourism director of Galax, Virginia.

01/17

Appalachian Vibes: Emerald Pines – Bocchi talks with Kandace Newman (aka Emerald Pines) on single motherhood, art, and the benefit of leaning on your own intuition

Down the Road: Josh Goforth, Zoe van Buren, and Brandon Johnson – In the first episode of DTR's Fine Tuned Project, Goforth, Van Buren, and Johnson give an overview and what to expect out of the venture

01/24

American Songcatcher: Woody Guthrie – A look at the beginning of Woody Guthrie's life

Southern Songs and Stories: Earl Scruggs – A gathering of Scruggs confidants to talk about his lasting legacy and experience from the 1950's

01/31

Appalachian Vibes: Patti Meredith – Bocchi talks with Galax author Patti Meredith about her novel, South of Heaven

Down the Road: Jarrett Wildcat & Keaw'e Bone – Wilcat and Bone discuss their connection to traditional music and experiences with the fine tuned project

February

02/07

American Songcatcher: Woody Guthrie PT. 2 – Continuing look at Woody Guthrie's life

Southern Songs and Stories: Earl Scruggs Pt. 2 – Continuing look at Scruggs impact and legacy

02/14

Appalachian Vibes: David C. Gelly – Bocchi talks with Fancy Gap author Gelly on his horror works

Down the Road: Allen Boys - DaSahwn Hickman, and Kelley Breiding discuss their collaboration with the fine-tuned project, and their own musical traditions

02/21

American Songcatcher: Woody Guthrie – Continuing look into Woody Guthrie's life

Southern Songs and Stories: Leading Ladies of Bluegrass - Sierra Hull, Natalya Weinstein, Becky Buller, Claire Lynch, and Della Mae talk with Kendrick on their experiences being women in bluegrass

02/28

Appalachian Vibes: Cold Chocolate – Bocchi talks with Boston duo Cold Chocolate on their transition from classical music to roots inspired tunes

Down the Road: David Lamon and Benjamin Barker – Lamon and Barker talk about music, and North Carolina traditions

March

03/07

American Songcatcher: Scottish and Irish Music – A look in the music from Scottish and Irish immigrants in America

Southern Songs and Stories: Po Ramblin Boys – Kendrick talks with the Po Rambling Boys about their how their music is progressive yet traditional, it's subject matter, and working with Jim Lauderdale

03/14

Appalachian Vibes: Dusty Ray Simmons – Bocchi talks with multi-instrumentalist Simmons on his beginnings as an artist, and how the pandemic shaped with writing

Down the Road: Bayla Davis and Cary Fridley – Mentor and Mentee Davis and Fridley discuss their experiences together and with the fined tuned project

03/21

American Songcatcher: Elizabeth Cotton – A recount of Cottons music, and upbringings

Southern Songs and Stories: Rap in Bluegrass – A look into how bluegrass and rap/hip-hop coexist

03/28

Appalachian Vibes: Matt Mulling – Bocchi talks with Mulling on his songwriting and influences

Down the Road: Josh Jones and Sav Sankaran – Mentor and Mentee Jones and Sankaran talk about their experiences together and making music for the Fine Tuned project

We ran the following program to address it: *Southern Appalachian Creature Feature*

Mondays Time: 7:20 a.m. Duration: 1 min 30 sec Information attached

March 27

[Hatchery Supported Trout Waters Open April 1](#)

Greetings and welcome to the Southern Appalachian Creature Feature.

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission will open approximately 1,000 miles of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters at 7 a.m. on April 1. The season will run through Feb. 29, 2024.

Hatchery Supported Trout Waters, which are marked by green-and-white signs, have been closed since Feb. 28 for stocking. Most trout are stocked April through June, with a few streams selectively stocked in July. Overall, staff will stock nearly 964,000 trout — 96 percent of which will average 10 inches in length, with the other 4 percent exceeding 14 inches in length.

Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are open to public fishing; however, many of those miles are privately owned so anglers are urged to respect the property they are fishing on.

Anglers can help prevent the loss of public access to fishing by:

- Respecting private property and landowners at all times.
- Removing all trash and litter from fishing and parking areas.
- Parking only in designated areas and leaving driveways open for traffic.
- Closing and/or locking gates after use.
- Reporting wildlife violations by calling 800-662-7137.

For a list of all Hatchery Supported Trout Waters, as well as trout maps, the complete stocking schedule, and daily stocking updates, visit ncwildlife.org.

For WNCW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this is Gary Peeples.

March 20, 2023

[Longsolid listing](#)

Greetings and welcome to the Southern Appalachian Creature Feature.

Despite their important role in our rivers, freshwater mussels don't get much attention. As filter feeders, they literally clean the water by drawing stream water into their body and filtering it to get algae, bacteria, and other food. They're also sensitive to water pollution, so the state of freshwater mussel populations reflects the health of our rivers.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently announced a decision to place the longsolid and round hickorynut mussels on the threatened and endangered species list. Although both mussels are found across much of the eastern United States, neither is doing well, having suffered from habitat degradation, genetic isolation, and threats from invasive species

Only one of the two is found in our area. The longsolid lives in a portion of the Hiwassee River watershed in the western tip of North Carolina, and the Little River in Transylvania County. That the longsolid has been able to hang on in these rivers is a testament to their importance for conservation.

There are more than 900 species of freshwater mussels worldwide, and North America is a global center of mussel diversity, with about 300 species. Despite the high diversity, 65% of North American freshwater mussel species are imperiled.

For WNCW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this is Gary Peeples.

March 13, 2023

Blue Ridge Snorkel Trail

Greetings and welcome to the Southern Appalachian Creature Feature.

With an eye toward summer, a new way to enjoy North Carolina's wildlife is in the offering. The Blue Ridge Snorkel Trail was recently unveiled, offering a deeper connection with select western North Carolina waterways and the creatures found there.

Ten sites are slated to open in late spring. Each site on the trail will be designated by signage providing information on water safety and notable aquatic species at the site.

The ten pilot sites are:

- Joseph McDowell Historical Catawba Greenway in Marion.
- Canton Recreation Park.
- Mills River Park.
- Black Mountain Veterans Park.
- Valley River Heritage Park, in Andrews.
- Bryson City Island Park.
- East LaPorte River Access Park in Jackson County.
- Joyce Kilmer Bridge Fishing Access on Nantahala National Forest.
- Queen Branch Nature Preserve, in Macon County.
- And Stone Mountain State Park.

Snorkeling is becoming a popular alternative to traditional river recreation, and the timing of the trail's opening is serendipitous given the North Carolina General Assembly designated 2023 as the Year of the Trail to bring attention to the numerous outdoor recreation opportunities.

While still under development, information about site kick-off events with guided snorkeling, the trail, and snorkel sites will be provided on blueridgesnorkeltrail.com later this spring.

For WNCW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this is Gary Peeples.

March 6, 2023

Bat eviction

Greetings, and welcome to the Southern Appalachian Creature Feature.

If you suspect bats may be living in your home, biologists recommend you relocate them responsibly before pup-rearing season begins May 1.

Bat scat, called guano, is the most obvious indication that bats may be living in the gable vents, behind a shutter or in another nook around the outside or inside your home. If they're getting

inside, a licensed Wildlife Control Agent can safely evict them for you. You can find a list of licensed professionals at ncwildlife.org.

Evicting bats before they have pups is key. Young bats are initially flightless and totally dependent on their mothers, so when adult bats are evicted, flightless young perish because they can't yet leave the roost or survive on their own. To make matters worse, mother bats may end up in the living space of a building trying to seek alternate ways to get to their pups.

If you are unable to remove bats from your home before rearing season, it is best to leave them in their roost until the end of July, when young bats are mature enough to fly and eviction methods are safe to resume.

Bats return to the same roost each spring, so it's important to maintain your home after evicting them.

For WNCW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this is Gary Peeples.

February 27, 2023

Polk County Middle School

Greetings and welcome to the Southern Appalachian Creature Feature.

I recently had the opportunity to chat with students at Polk County Middle School, in Mills Spring, N.C. While we may think of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, or Pisgah National Forest, as the great bastions of wildlife habitat in our area, my conversation with the Polk County students really drove home how much people can do to improve wildlife habitat in their yard and in their community, as many of their questions focused on being good stewards of local areas, from school grounds to popular outdoor spots in the county.

Now is an outstanding time to think of ways into improve backyard habitat, as spring planting presents a great opportunity to improve habitat at your home, church, office, or other areas in the community.

Spring planting provides an opportunity to rethink parts of your lawn, perhaps moving away from grass and installing a variety of native, flowering plants that provide food and shelter to native animals – from bumble bees and butterflies to hummingbirds and goldfinches.

Planting trees and shrubs along streams provides a thick root structure that holds soil in place, helping prevent erosion. Letting areas along streams and ponds go natural provides a filter helping catch excess lawn and garden chemicals washing downhill.

There are numerous tiny steps we can take to improve habitat right in our back yards.

For WNCW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this is Gary Peeples.

February 20

Wood stork

Greetings and welcome to the Southern Appalachian Creature Feature.

It's a little outside the southern Appalachians, but a southern success story worth noting. Last week the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed removing the wood stork from the federal list of threatened and endangered species.

The wood stork, the only species of stork breeding in the United States, faced extinction when listed in 1984 under the Endangered Species Act. The population decreased from 20,000 nesting pairs to less than 5,000 pairs, primarily nesting in south Florida's Everglades and Big Cypress areas. Today, the wood stork breeding population has doubled to 10,000 or more nesting pairs and increased its range, including the coastal plains of Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina.

These long-legged wading birds more than tripled their number of nesting colonies from 29 to 99 in their expanded range. They've adapted to new nesting areas, moving north into coastal salt marshes; old, flooded rice fields; floodplain forest wetlands; and human-created wetlands.

The announcement comes as the Endangered Species Act turns 50 years old in 2023.

If the wood stork is delisted, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the Clean Water Act, and state environmental regulations will continue protecting this species and the wetland habitats it depends upon.

For WNCW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this is Gary Peeples.

February 13

Septic systems and water quality

Greetings and welcome to the Southern Appalachian Creature Feature.

Septic systems aren't glamorous, and they don't quickly come to mind when we talk about conservation, but when they fail they can affect water quality by polluting waterways with harmful bacteria. Here are important practices to consider when maintaining a septic system:

- Have solids pumped from your septic tank every three to five years.
- Keep the soil over the drain field covered with grass or other shallow-rooted plants to prevent erosion. Deep roots can clog systems.
- Do not drive on or otherwise compact the soil above the drain field.
- Flush only toilet tissue and human waste down the toilet.
- When possible, refrain from using your garbage disposal. Do not dump coffee grounds, grease, oils, or fats down your drains.

- Don't use harsh cleaners or put other toxic chemicals like bleach, paint, solvents, or pesticides down the drain.
- Learn the signs of a malfunctioning or failing system. Backed-up water, abnormally green vegetation, soggy areas over the drain field, and a foul smell could all indicate problems.

Area non-profit MountainTrue is partnering with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services to provide septic repair grants to qualifying property owners in Buncombe and Henderson counties. Review eligibility requirements and apply for the repair program at mountaintrue.org.

For WNCW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this is Gary Peeples.

February 6, 2023

[Parking at GSMNP](#)

Greetings and welcome to the Southern Appalachian Creature Feature.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park is tremendous place to get outdoors, but that's no secret and the park annually ranks among the most visited units in the National Park Service's system of lands. The visitor experience at the park will soon be tweaked in a way visitors should be aware of.

On March 1, Great Smoky Mountains National Park will begin requiring visitors to buy and display a valid parking tag for any vehicle parking for more than 15 minutes. To make the transition as smooth as possible, early sales of annual parking tags is already underway.

\$40 annual parking tags will be available for purchase online through the Great Smoky Mountains Association or at any of the park's visitor centers. The \$5 daily and \$15 weekly parking tags will become available for purchase at 10 a.m., February 21 at recreation.gov.

All revenue remains in the park, supporting visitor services such as trail maintenance, custodial services, and trash removal. The program will also support more education programs, emergency responders, and law enforcement staff across the park.

Parking tags cannot be transferred between vehicles and will not guarantee a parking spot at a

specific location. Parking will continue to be available on a first-come, first-served basis throughout the park.

For WNCW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this is Gary Peeples.

[Sickle darter](#)

Greetings and welcome to the Southern Appalachian Creature Feature.

This past fall the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service placed the sickle darter on the federal threatened and endangered species list, as a threatened species.

Darters are small fish that live on the stream bottom where they dart among the gravel, cobblestones, and boulders. When it comes to river fish, many may focus their thoughts, and recreation effort, on trout or smallmouth bass, but darters are known for their color and some can provide a visual spectacle to rival any coral reef fish, providing a reward to river snorkelers.

Prior to 2005, the sickle darter was known to be in nine river systems – all part of the upper Tennessee River system that reaches into east Tennessee, southwest Virginia, and western North Carolina. The only known record of the sickle darter in North Carolina comes from the French Broad River. Unfortunately, today it's only found in six of those nine rivers, and the French Broad isn't one of them - the sickle darter has disappeared from North Carolina.

Being placed on the threatened and endangered species list makes funding available for conservation efforts and ensures federal agencies take the needs of the fish into consideration with projects they fund or authorize.

For WNCW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this is Gary Peeples.

January 30, 2023

[Your Tax Refund](#)

Greetings and welcome to the Southern Appalachian Creature Feature.

While deer, bear, turkey, and trout may quickly come to mind when we talk about southern Appalachian wildlife, these mountains and streams are home to a rich diversity of non-game animals, from the endangered Appalachian elktoe mussel in the French Broad River to the Carolina northern flying squirrel at Mount Mitchell.

Anyone filing a 2022 North Carolina state tax return can donating a portion of their refund to the N.C. Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Fund. Contributions will support research and conservation management projects for the state's most vulnerable wildlife populations.

The tax-check off program is the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission's most significant source of non-federal funding for projects supporting our state's nongame and endangered species. Songbirds, salamanders, frogs and other wildlife species without a designated hunting and fishing season all benefit. The funding benefits game species too because they often live in the same habitats.

Taxpayers can participate by checking line 30 on their North Carolina state income tax form, or by telling their tax preparer they would like to donate. If using tax preparation software, e-filers simply enter the amount they'd like to contribute to the fund when prompted.

Learn more about the state of North Carolina's nongame and endangered wildlife projects at ncwildlife.org

For WNCW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this is Gary Peeples.

January 23

Turkey Hunting Webinars

Greetings and welcome to the Southern Appalachian Creature Feature.

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission will offer three free turkey hunting webinars this February. Topics include biology, habitats, scouting, essential equipment, setup, effective shot placement, decoy placement and hunting strategies.

Throughout the webinar series, instructors will provide an overview of how to prepare, what to expect, and how to execute a successful hunt while enjoying time in the wild regardless of harvest. The webinars are especially intended for those who have never hunted and lack access to a hunting mentor, although they are open to all skill levels.

The series will be completed over three consecutive evenings. Anyone interested in attending all three webinars must register for each class separately.

- On February 7, biology for hunters, regulations, where to hunt and scouting will be covered
- On February 8th, firearms, ammo, clothing and equipment
- And on February 9th, hunting techniques and strategies

All sessions will be from 7-8 pm.

Classes will be held via Zoom, and will be recorded, with a link to the recording emailed to registered participants. For more information on the turkey seminars, visit ncwildlife.org/sbs.

Open seasons for male or bearded turkeys are April 1 – 7 for youth under 18, and April 8 – May 6 statewide.

For WNCW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this is Gary Peeples.

January 16, 2023

[Wilderness anniversary](#)

Greetings and welcome to the Southern Appalachian Creature Feature.

It has been nearly fifty years since Congress passed the Wilderness Act, creating a system of federally managed lands receiving the highest level of conservation protection, areas, as the act says, “where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.”

Wilderness areas now encompass more than 109 million acres, and western North Carolina is home to Shining Rock, Linville Gorge, and Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock wildernesses among others.

Wilderness-based recreation provides income for neighboring communities — boosting economies through outfitting, lodging, restaurants, bars, and transportation. These communities may be ideal destinations for people to relocate to, bringing businesses, transfer payments, and income with them.

Wilderness areas deliver several other benefits to Americans, including some important for mitigating climate change. Wilderness areas store as much carbon as all other federal lands combined. Plus, a disproportionately large share of renewable freshwater flows from them. Twenty-one states have at least one wilderness area that serves as a major water source for surrounding and distant communities.

Looking to the future, direct stresses, such as recreational overuse; combined with indirect stresses — such as unusually intense wildfire, forest pests, and increasingly severe drought and storm events are creating novel challenges for wilderness managers.

For WNCW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this is Gary Peeples.

January 9, 2023

[Lees-McRae College Becomes Nation’s First BearWise® Recognized Campus](#)

Greetings and welcome to the Southern Appalachian Creature Feature.

Wildlife biologists with the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission recently recognized Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk as the first BearWise campus in the United States. BearWise is a national education program that was developed by bear biologists to provide science-based resources and solutions for living responsibly with American black bears.

BearWise encourages residents, businesses and communities to take proactive actions to avoid conflicts with bears. Some states, including North Carolina, are adopting formal recognition programs for BearWise communities, in which these communities formally commit to securing attractants and following the BearWise Basics to keep bears wild and people safe.

As a BearWise campus, Lees-McRae College officials committed to implementing new reporting procedures for bear sightings and interactions through their emergency management webpage. They also are securing attractants on campus by:

- Rearranging trash receptacles to minimize access for bears.
- Phasing in bear-resistant trash receptacles around campus.
- Purchasing trash compactors to minimize garbage in dumpsters.
- Replacing dumpster lids with a sturdier metal option to keep bears out.

Learn more about how to become a recognized BearWise community or business at ncwildlife.org or BearWise.org.

For WNCW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this is Gary Peeples.

Issue: Women's Issues

We ran the following program to address it: 51%

Saturdays Time: 5:30 a.m. Duration: 25 min Information attached

DATE	TIME	SHOW #	TOPICS
1/5/2023	30:00	1746	What's your New Year's resolution? On the latest 51%, we speak with dietician and personal trainer Nicole Rodriguez about how to set healthy and realistic nutrition goals that fit your lifestyle. And in this season of gym memberships, career scheming, and personal development, one multi-generational study suggests the key to fulfillment is actually, quite simple: nurturing our relationships. The New York Times' Jancee Dunn shares what we can learn from the world's longest-running study on human happiness.
1/12/2023	30:00	1747	On this week's 51%, we explore how building for the future demands reckoning with our past. NYU Stern School of Business professor and social

			psychologist Dolly Chugh offers guidance for the “gritty patriot” in her new book "A More Just Future."
1/19/2023	30:00	1748	On this week’s 51%, we speak with filmmaker Tracy Heather Strain about her new PBS documentary "Zora Neale Hurston: Claiming a Space." We'll also hear from ceramicist Kelli Rae Adams about her latest installation at MASS MoCA, titled "Forever in Your Debt."
1/26/2023	30:00	1749	January 22 would have marked the 50th anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court decision Roe v. Wade, had the Court not decided to overturn the ruling last year. On the latest 51%, we speak with Amy Littlefield, longtime abortion access correspondent for The Nation, about how the fall of Roe is currently playing out in states and women’s health clinics across the U.S.
2/2/2023	30:00	1750	On this week's 51%, we speak with Hollywood dialect coach and author Samara Bay about how to buck America’s “voice standards” and embrace the power in your voice.
2/9/2023	30:00	1751	On this week’s 51%, we speak with editors Nan Bauer-Maglin and Daniel Hood about their new book "Gray Love: Stories About Dating and New Relationships After 60."
2/16/2023	30:00	1752	On this week's 51%, we speak with Katie Hood, CEO of the One Love Foundation, about the differences between healthy and unhealthy relationships — and how to tell which one you’re in.
2/23/2023	30:00	1753	On this week’s 51%, we speak with Dr. Clarence Lusane about his latest book "Twenty Dollars and Change: Harriet Tubman and the Ongoing Fight for Racial Justice and Democracy," on the lifelong activism of Harriet Tubman and the future of the \$20 bill.
3/2/2023	30:00	1754	On this week’s 51%, we speak with Alisha Fernandez Miranda about her journey from CEO to intern in her new memoir "My What If Year."
3/9/2023	30:00	1755	On this week’s 51%, we recognize Women’s History Month. Jennifer Herrera, vice president of external affairs for the National Women’s History Museum, shares how the organization is working to fill the gaps in our history books. Our associate producer, Jody Cowan, stops by a donation ceremony for a replica of the Women’s Rights Pioneers Monument at the New York State Museum.
3/16/2023	30:00	1756	Parenting isn’t easy – especially when children are difficult. On this week’s 51%, Dr. Adelia Moore discusses how you can become a more confident parent, love with conviction, and see your children as the unique individuals they are.

3/23/2023	30:00	1757	On this week's 51%, we take a look at the gender pay gap in the U.S., and speak with America Saves Director Kia McCallister-Young to learn how you can come up with a savings plan that fits your needs and leaves you feeling financially confident – no matter what life throws at you.
3/30/2023	30:00	1758	On this week's 51%, we speak with long-distance runner and two-time Olympian Kara Goucher about her daring new memoir, "The Longest Race: Inside the Secret World of Abuse, Doping, and Deception on Nike's Elite Running Team."

Issue: National News

We ran the following program to address it: NPR's *Morning Edition*

Monday through Friday Time: 7:01 a.m. to 9 a.m.

We ran the following program to address it: NPR's News Headlines

Monday through Friday at one minute past the hour to six minutes past the hour, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday at one minute past the hour to six minutes past the hour, at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Issue: NC and Regional News

We ran the following programs to address it: WNCW Morning News Reports

Monday thru Friday Time: 7:06 am, 7:30 am, 8:06 am, 8:30 am Duration 1.5 and 3 minutes.
Sample information attached

" A Variety of January - March 2023 NEWS-STORIES"

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023

#Only 37% of adults in North Carolina have received their flu vaccinations this flu season. This according to the latest data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That's why UNC Health is reminding the public that plenty of doses remain and that's it's not too late into flu season to be vaccinated.

#More victims of human trafficking were reported in 2022 than the year before in South Carolina, according to the state's Human Trafficking Task Force Annual Report. The state will add four regional task forces to the effort in 2023, hoping to ensure coordinated statewide responses to these types of crimes.

#Officials with the North Carolina Department of Transportation say that progress is being made when it comes to the U.S. Hwy 221 Bypass for Rutherfordton. In what began in March of last year, the clearing of land will continue to take place. The

Rutherfordton Bypass will be a four-lane divided highway, starting north of RS Central High School that goes to Charlotte Road South to the Shiloh Community.

#Transgender issues, third-grade retention and abortion laws are some of the top legislative priorities that state lawmakers may face in the upcoming Tennessee General Assembly. Lawmakers begin the new session at noon today Nashville time.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023

#The Haywood County Board of Commissioners is considering flood relief money with \$800,000 for removing debris from the Pigeon River and \$7 million to help those displaced by Tropical Storm Fred from August 2021 and still ongoing. The Haywood County Board of Commissioners anticipates approving an agreement with North Carolina's Recovery Office for \$7 million in community block grant disaster recovery funding and for the county manager to execute all associated contracts. Much of the \$7 million will go to affordable housing needs.

#A nonprofit organization in Henderson County was awarded a \$1 million grant to support the early childhood education workforce across the mountains. The **Children & Family Resource Center** will utilize the grant money from **Dogwood Health Trust**, in partnership with the **Buncombe County Partnership for Children**. The money will be used to increase pay for workers and recruit more substitute teachers that are in high demand.

#2022 was a banner year for growth in North Carolina's life sciences industries, and the state continued its push for more life sciences manufacturing investments. The North Carolina Bio-Technology Center reports that companies announced over 30 projects this year that will total \$2.1 billion of investments and more than 2,700 new jobs in life sciences and related industries. Job growth in life sciences industries in North Carolina has outpaced the total private sector.

#Legislation focused on education, healthcare, and criminal justice issues will likely be among the first bills under debate at the South Carolina State House this year. For one of them, that debate has already started on the Senate floor. Tuesday, senators began their debate on a bill [to establish a school voucher program](#) in South Carolina. The "Education Scholarship Account" legislation passed in both the House and the Senate last year but in different forms, with the chambers approving different details like caps on enrollment and eligibility requirements.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2023

#North Carolina's newly seated Supreme Court heard arguments Thursday on whether people convicted of felonies - tens of thousands statewide - should be permitted to vote if they aren't in prison but still are serving probation or parole or have yet to pay

finer. Last year, a majority of trial judges agreed with the plaintiffs that keeping felony offenders who aren't behind bars but are still under state supervision from registering to vote, harmed Black offenders and violated the constitution's equal protection and free election clauses.

#A bill that could restart lethal injections in South Carolina is awaiting a debate at the State House. A Senate committee advanced a Shield-Law-Bill Thursday, which would keep drug manufacturers' and pharmacies' identities hidden if they sell the state lethal-injection drugs. Currently, South Carolina has more than 30 inmates on death row and no way to legally carry out their executions. Last week, the state Supreme Court said it was delaying a ruling on the legality of the electric chair and firing squad for up to four months

#The University of Tennessee Gardens has announced a partnership with the American Horticultural Society to bring the 2023 National Children and Youth Garden Symposium to Knoxville. This professional development event focuses on educators, garden designers, community leaders, and others dedicated to connecting children and youth to the natural world. The event would be held in July.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023

#A Duke Energy Corp. subsidiary for North Carolina electric customers has asked state regulators to let them raise residential rates by 16.6% in the coming months largely to recover their fuel costs, which it said soared mainly from natural gas prices last year. Duke Energy Carolinas serves nearly 2 million households and businesses in western and central North Carolina. Duke said Wednesday that if the request is approved by the state Utilities Commission, the typical residential customer's monthly bill would increase from right at \$115.00 to a little over \$134.00. The company went on to say that higher natural gas demand and tight supplies drove most of its rate request.

#A bipartisan group of state lawmakers is trying again to expand the role of advanced practice nurses - a proposal closely tied to efforts to expand Medicaid. For years, nurses and their backers in the General Assembly have been unsuccessful in passing the SAVE Act. It would allow nurses who have met advanced educational and clinical practice requirements to work independently without having a supervising doctor. Supporters say the change would make health care more accessible and more affordable. A coalition of groups representing doctors opposes the measure. They issued a statement saying the SAVE act would disconnect doctors from patient care and create safety problems.

#From Watauga County- Crews from multiple fire departments contained a large brush fire Wednesday afternoon in the Stony Fork area of the Deep Gap Fire District. At that time, the fire was estimated at approximately 50 acres, but could grow in the coming days. The fire started after a tree fell on power lines that ignited sparks on the ground. *Our thanks for this story from the Watauga Democrat*

#(Upstate SC) Greenville County Animal Care announced that their shelter will be operating on an emergency intake only basis. According to the shelter, the reason

for this status is due to a national outbreak of canine respiratory illness that has now been detected in the Upstate. The shelter can only intake true emergency situations that involve dogs acting aggressively that are a risk to the public or dogs who require emergency medical attention. Healthy strays should not be brought to the shelter at this time.

Issue: Local and Regional News

We ran the following program to address it: WNCW's *Friday Feature* interview Fridays Time: 8:50 a.m. Duration: 7 min 30 sec Information attached

We ran the following program to address it: WNCW's *More to the Story* feature interview Wednesdays Time: 8:50 a.m. Duration: 7 min 30 sec Information attached

WNCW - Paul Foster Projects

January through March 2023 Quarterly Report of Weekly Interviews

January:

1/4: *More to the Story* - It was a review edition that highlighted some of the top news media interviews of 2022. Topics included "The Deadliest Jail in North Carolina", "Abortion in N.C.", "Better Pay for Teachers", and "Progress of State Rape Kits." Guests were from WUNC, WFAE, and Carolina Public Press.

1/6: *The Friday Feature* - It was a review edition that highlighted some of the top interviews presented in 2022. Topics included "The Blue Ridge Honor Flight", "A Guide to the Appalachian Trail", "The Ave Gardner Museum", and "Comedian Tommy Davidson".

1/11: *More to the Story* - It's rare to get to speak with a member of the news media coming off of a trip to war-torn Ukraine, but that's what happened when we sat down with Cory Vaillancourt of Smoky Mountain News. Cory was able to travel to parts of Ukraine. The country has been invaded and attacked by Russia for almost one year. Cory experienced a number of rough circumstances from places to people.

1/13: *The Friday Feature* - '*About The Tannery*' takes you to Wilkes County, N.C. in the year 1900, when the deceased body of the young daughter of the local tannery owner is discovered on the north bank of the Yadkin River. Who took her life and why? Retired North Carolina Attorney-turned-author, Michael Almond, visited with the Friday Feature.

1/18: *More to the Story* - WUNC Political Reporter and Capital Bureau Chief, Jeff Tiberii, joined WNCW for a conversation about the North Carolina General Assembly coming back into session for the new year. As House and Senate members joined back together, Jeff said issues like education, voting maps, abortion, and Medicaid expansion would be some of the biggest items they debate.

1/20: *The Friday Feature* - Located in Woodruff, S.C. is The Stone Soup Storytelling Institute. Guests to the Friday Feature shared their love for storytelling. President Karyn Page Davies and Storyteller and Board Member Cora Newcomb were interviewed. From pop-up and virtual events to a yearly festival, Stone Soup is well-equipped for a storytelling good time.

1/25: *More to the Story* – *Smoky Mountain News* Reporter Holly Kays went over her story, "Marked Absent, From Kindergarten Through College - Men Struggle In School". Across the state and Western North Carolina, Holly talked about evidence showing a significant gap between the academic success of males compared to females. How far will educational leaders and institutions go to fix the problem?

1/27: *The Friday Feature* – A rebroadcast aired on this date about parks and trails of significance across the state of North Carolina and the people who work there and maintain these locations. Locations that deal with a large number of visitors throughout the year and support tourism efforts.

February:

2/3: *The Friday Feature* – Food Connection's Leader of Community Engagement, Flori Pate, was guest to talk about the ongoing growth and milestones of the non-profit group, which receives excess food from caterers and restaurants to feed those in need. We learned about the number of meals the group has served over the years, ownership of a new food truck, and growth in Henderson County.

2/8: *More to the Story* – Carolina Public Press took part in this episode when they presented – "Overlooked – How The American Rescue Act is Being Used Across Western North Carolina." You might be surprised how much money some counties received. And just how are they using their funds? Reporter Shelby Harris filled us in.

2/10: *The Friday Feature* – This feature celebrated Black History Month with a combination of several significant topics that took place in Western North Carolina. That included educator Lucy Herring, the African American community The Happy Land, the National Park Service, and music and civil rights icon Nina Simone. WNCW's Kevin Washington and Smoky Mountain News contributed to the program.

2/15: *More to the Story* – Joining a national trend, the city of Durham, N.C. has been dispatching mental health teams and not police to some 911 calls. WUNC Reporter Jay Price joined WNCW and said that we usually think of three kinds of first responders rushing to an emergency. They are police, emergency medical providers, and firefighters. Now on that list and growing are mental health professionals.

2/17: *The Friday Feature* – As a part of WNCW's celebration of Black History Month, Cleveland County, N.C. native Dr. James Benton of Georgetown University, spoke with the Friday Feature about his book, 'Fraying Fabric - How Trade Policy and Industrial Decline Transformed America.' Such a significant industry, especially in Western North Carolina, is not the same.

2/22: *More to the Story* – This edition focused on industry and technology across South Carolina and the part in plays in enhancing cities, counties and jobs. From new flights at Columbia Metropolitan Airport - to upcoming expansion of car maker Volvo – to York County Tech School. The future looks bright.

2/24: *The Friday Feature* – The creator of The No-Madness-Travel-Tribe and No Madness TV, Evita Robinson was a guest on WNCW to recap her visit to Asheville. The No-Madness virtual community caters mostly to African Americans as a way to make traveling easy and enjoyable. The

Asheville visit highlighted significant minority individuals from yesterday to today that help make the city what it is.

March:

3/1: *More to the Story* – South Carolina Public Radio Reporter – Scott Morgan shared the details of his podcast “Indebted.” He shared that S.C. has the highest share of counties and residents of any state in the nation, in which its people have debt in collections. Why is that. The eight episodes of the series attempts to answer that.

3/3: *Friday Feature* – March is National American Red Cross Month. From the Western North Carolina Chapter – Gail Barksdale shared information about the on-going need for blood and talked about a list of upcoming blood drives, she hoped would make a difference to those in need.

3/8: *More to the Story* – After two weeks in court, a hung jury led to a mistrial in what was known as the Knibbs case. The case from Macon County, N.C. dealt with a Sheriff’s Deputy who took the life of another man, whose family says was unnecessary and careless. Kyle Perrotti of Smoky Mountain News was guest.

3/10: *Friday Feature* – Rare father and son Film Critics, Noel Manning (the Dad) and Thomas Manning (the son) are both graduates of Gardner-Webb University (Boiling Springs, NC), who love going to the movies and reviewing films. Both are members of the North Carolina Film Critics Association and co-host the cable TV and radio film reviews program, 'Meet Me at the Movies.' They previewed the 95th Annual Oscars.

3/15: *More to the Story* – Asheville Watchdog Reporter – John Boyle was interviewed about a series he was contributing to, called Down Town (Asheville). The second part of the series was on the police. John covered how a decrease in officers on duty in the downtown is causing extra issues for many business owners. Recruiting more officers is a top priority for Asheville Police.

3/17: *Friday Feature* – Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity turned 40-years-old. From the organization and interviewed was Andy Barnett, who talked about Asheville Habitat’s start, growth and significance across Western NC. This conversation took place the same day that walls were being raised in the starting stages of building their 40th anniversary home for a family in need.

3/22: *More to the Story* – Drug use across North Carolina is a big problem. So when you’re a user, even if you won’t to stop using drugs, it isn’t as easy as cold turkey. Greensboro has something in place that tries to gradually ease and take someone off a drug or drugs. This was discussed in this episode.

3/24: *Friday Feature* – The award winning magazine The Bitter Southerner was spotlighted as it marked its tenth anniversary. Based in Athens, GA., the magazine tells the stories of the American South, raw and as it is from its people to places. The Co-Founders were guests – Kyle Tibbs Jones, Eric Nesmith, and Dave Whitling.

3/29: *More to the Story* – WFAE Public Radio, Charlotte, and Steve Harrison took part in this interview to share some stories from the Queen City. This involved trouble for the city’s light rail system, including is it safe. Steve also talked about rising property taxes that have many residents concerned.

3/31: Friday Feature – The Birthplace of Country Music Museum in Bristol, VA. was spotlighted for its new exhibit called ‘I’ve Endured: The Women of Old Time Music.’ Museum Curator Rene Rodgers was interviewed, as she shared details the past, present, and future of females who put this music on the map and who maintains doing so today.