

ARTS/CULTURE:**AGRICULTURE:**

Country singer Willie Nelson's Farm Aid is coming back to Raleigh. The premier music festival that raises money for American farmers is set for September 24 at the Coastal Credit Union Music Park, at Walnut Creek.

Farm Aid Spokesperson Jennifer Fahy [fay-hee] says they wanted to return to the south to see how farmers are handling the climate crisis.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/26/2022

A local farming program at Appalachian State University is partnering with a national one to train military veterans this week.

For the first time, the "Frontline to Farm" program brought "Armed to Farm" to North Carolina for a week-long training. Lynn Gregory with Frontline to Farm says it's a collaborative effort.

FEATURE, ME, 07/27/2022

CRIME/LAW ENFORCEMENT:

A nearly 884 million dollar bond referendum for Wake County schools and community colleges could be on the November ballot. County commissioners are holding a hearing on the proposal today. Bradley George reports.

FEATURE, ME, 07/11/2022

The North Carolina prison system has accelerated a plan to air condition all of its bed spaces for inmates. Jason deBruyn reports.

FEATURE, ME, 07/11/2022

Democratic challenger Willie Rowe. Rowe, a former deputy, received more than 75-percent of the vote, including the votes of Joyce and Julius Richardson.

The married couple cast their ballots at a Raleigh precinct on Election Day. They say they've never missed an election because they want things to progress in the community.

FEATURE, ME, 07/27/2022

A new report shows Durham Police is taking longer to respond to calls. Staff shortages are a major factor, as Bradley George reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/16/2022

A suspect has been arrested for the murder of the Wake deputy killed last week.

Wake County Sheriff Gerald Baker named the suspect during a briefing today [Thursday].

FEATURE, ATC, 08/18/2022

Durham's police chief says she's doing all she can to recruit new officers.

Chief Patrice Andrews told the city council this week that her agency is reaching out to people who are leaving the armed forces.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/19/2022

Durham's ShotSpotter pilot program is now expected to go live in November. Sascha Cordner has more.

FEATURE, ME, 08/22/2022

ECONOMY:

A new study shows visitor spending is up across North Carolina. As W-F-D-D's Keri Brown reports, the Triad area saw some big gains.

FEATURE, ME, 08/22/2022

EDUCATION:

Law enforcement recently investigated allegedly offensive books in New Hanover County public school libraries. But as W-H-Q-R's Ben Schachtman [shackt-man] reports, the District Attorney's office found the material is protected by the First Amendment and state law.

FEATURE, ME, 07/11/2022

A Back-to-School supply drive is underway for Wake County public school teachers.

Sharryse Piggott has more

FEATURE, ME, 07/12/2022

Award-winning journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones today further explained her tenure settlement with the University of North Carolina. Naomi Prioleau has more.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/19/2022

The U-N-C System is conducting a study to quantify its return-on-investment for students and the state. Liz Schlemmer reports.

FEATURE, ME, 07/21/2022

The newly signed state budget has delivered on all of the U-N-C System's requests for funding.

Bart Goodson is the Senior Vice President of Government Relations for the U-N-C System. He presented on the budget to the system's board of governors today [Wednesday].

FEATURE, ME, 07/27/2022

School administrators are feeling the pressure to find teachers to fill classes in the fall.

Several large school districts in urban North Carolina are reporting higher than usual teacher resignations last year. Hiring is still underway, but the surge in job openings is increasing competition among schools across the state.

Rural schools may have a harder time competing. Michael Sasscer [SASS-er] is superintendent of Edenton-Chowan [cho-WAHN] Schools in rural eastern North Carolina. He has 6 positions to fill by August 29th.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/27/2022

The Wake County School board will vote tonight [Tuesday] on making Election Day a holiday for students, teachers, and staff. Board members prefer an option that would use a day already set aside for bad weather.

Glenn Carrozza [cah-rose-uh] is the district's assistant superintendent.

FEATURE, ME, 08/02/2022

The North Carolina Association of Educators held a press conference Tuesday to oppose a plan to change how teachers are paid.

The plan discussed by the state board of education last week would get rid of annual raises teachers receive for experience during the first 15 years of their careers. Instead, it would base pay on factors such as student growth on state tests and evaluations of teachers. It also proposes raising starting pay. Bryan Proffitt of N-C-A-E said the state could better retain teachers by reinstating annual raises throughout their careers.

FEATURE, ME, 08/10/2022

Discussions over a proposed campus redevelopment plan are continuing at Shaw University. This week, university officials gave public tours and gathered community input through a discussion. Another is slated for next month. They're part of a series of meetings to help usher in "The Shaw-U District" plan. Kevin Sullivan with the H-B-C-U says part of their end goal is to recruit and retain students.

FEATURE, ME, 08/10/2022

This is Morning Edition. I'm Eric Hodge. Teachers are leaving in large numbers in some North Carolina school districts. They say they've been working with low pay and high expectations for years. But when the pandemic put their routines on pause, they had time to examine their priorities. Liz Schlemmer has the stories of three former teachers.

FEATURE, ME, 08/11/2022

School districts across the state are gearing up for a new school year, and many will not be fully-staffed. Wake County Public Schools released its most recent data on staffing today [Wednesday]. The district has about 400 teacher vacancies, which is more than last school year and amounts to just over a 3 percent vacancy rate.

A.J. Muttillio [MYEW-till-oh] is the district's assistant superintendent for human resources. He says teacher resignations

were up last year, and his office has been working tirelessly to fill classrooms with qualified teachers.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/17/2022

North Carolina Central University is partnering with a marketing firm to launch a group licensing program for student athletes. The new partnership with firm "The Brandr [Brand-ARE] Group" allows these athletes to make money off their name. Kyle Serba [Ser-BAH] with N-C Central's Athletics Department says group licensing relates to three or more athletes in a specific sport, or six or more athletes in multiple sports.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/18/2022

The North Carolina School Superintendents Association has surveyed its members to collect data on teacher and staff vacancies across the state. Liz Schlemmer reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/22/2022

Several local school districts in the state this past year have banned books... particularly books that focus on gender identity and racial differences. This summer, WUNC Youth Reporter William Townsend talked to teens in the triangle who were directly impacted and spoke out against book bans in their communities.

FEATURE, ME, 09/09/2022

Shaw University will host a free virtual town hall tomorrow [Thursday at 6 p.m.] to discuss ways returning students can have better interactions with police. The event is called Reality Check 5.0 [five point oh]. Speakers will discuss community policing and provide tips for safely surviving encounters with law enforcement. Captain Kevin Jenkins with the Kinston Police Department is one of the speakers. He says the proper interaction between the citizen and law enforcement matters.

FEATURE, ME, 09/10/2022

Chowan Middle School is about 15 minutes outside the small town of Edenton. The road to get there cuts through farm fields and runs parallel to the Chowan River, which branches off the Albemarle Sound. WUNC education reporter Liz Schlemmer made a trip out there to see the creative ways this rural school is working through the teacher shortage.

FEATURE, ME, 09/27/2022

ENVIRONMENT:

North Carolina wildlife officers want boaters to be aware of the dangers of boating under the influence of alcohol over the holiday weekend. Sharryse Piggott has more on the national campaign that starts tomorrow [Saturday].

FEATURE, ME, 07/01/2022

The Hispanic population grew faster than the non-Hispanic population in nearly every North Carolina county last year. Jason deBruyn reports.

FEATURE, ME, 07/04/2022

As sea levels rise, saltwater wetlands will move inland and nearby freshwater wetlands will be lost. That's according to researchers at the Wetland and Aquatic Research Center in Louisiana.

Michael Osland (OZ-land) is a lead author on the study. He says that North Carolina is likely to be one of the states most affected by sea level rise.

FEATURE, ME, 07/05/2022

State officials are warning of an invasive insect species that has been sighted in North Carolina. W-F-D-D's Neal Charnoff has more.

FEATURE, ME, 07/11/2022

Thousands of private wells across North Carolina are contaminated with lead or arsenic. That's according to a statewide analysis of well water from researchers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

In some counties, over 10 percent of wells contained unhealthy levels of arsenic or lead.

Virginia Guidry (GID-ree) is with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. She says water can be unhealthy even when it tastes fine.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/20/2022

Colonial Pipeline has raised its estimate again for how much gasoline spilled at a Huntersville nature preserve two years ago.

The company now says at least two million gallons spilled. State regulators say it was the largest gasoline spill on land in the U-S.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/25/2022

The law passed by the Senate late Tuesday to expand benefits for military veterans exposed to toxic chemicals is mainly aimed at relief for those who inhaled smoke from so called "burn pits." But it also helps those potentially harmed by toxins present for decades in drinking water at Camp Lejeune. The new law will give them the right to sue the government.

Those who suffered health issues that they suspect were caused by the tainted water say they're glad to finally see the law passed after decades of lobbying and setbacks.

Among them was eighty-three-year-old Nancy "Catherine" Daniels, who now lives South Carolina.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/03/2022

Federal scientists say high-tide flooding is becoming more common on the East and Gulf coasts and the risk is accelerating as the ocean rises due to climate change. WFAE climate reporter David Boraks has more.

FEATURE, ME, 08/04/2022

This fall Warren County residents and environmental advocates will be celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the 1982 P-C-B Protests.

In 1978 Warren County was illegally sprayed with toxic polychlorinated biphenyls prior to the construction of an unwanted landfill.

The group of residents and environmental activists then successfully pushed back. The effort is credited with being the birth of the environmental justice movement.

Anniversary events will highlight the unsung heroes who helped but never had their stories shared publicly. Pastor William Kearney with the Warren County Environmental Action Team says so many people have played a significant role.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/08/2022

Later this month, [sometime between 8/15 and 8/31] researchers on the Outer Banks plan to test-run a machine that uses the energy from ocean waves to make clean drinking water. Sophia Friesen (FREEZ-in) reports on how the device could help coastal communities - and what could go wrong.

FEATURE, ME, 08/12/2022

The world's largest producer of wood pellets wants to expand production at a plant in eastern North Carolina - and emit more greenhouse gases. There's a public hearing tonight. W-F-A-E climate reporter David Boraks has more.

FEATURE, ME, 08/16/2022

A new report says much of eastern Virginia and North Carolina will be dealing with even more scorching temperatures in the coming decades. By the 2050's, the heat index on some days could rise to 125 degrees. W-H-R-O's Ryan Murphy has more.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/17/2022

This week marks the one-year anniversary of deadly flooding in Western North Carolina - triggered by the remnants of Tropical Storm Fred.

Six people were killed and more than 550 homes were destroyed. Recovery has been slow and steady.

Last August, the remnants of Tropical Storm Fred swept through Western North Carolina - dropping more than a foot of rain in some places and causing flooding that killed six people. Haywood county was hardest hit. Blue Ridge Public Radio's Cory Vaillancourt (val-en-court) checked in one year later on recovery efforts in the town of Canton.

FEATURE, ME, 08/22/2022

Environmental advocates and concerned citizens are criticizing Duke Energy for its proposal to reduce carbon emissions. State legislation requires North Carolina to be carbon neutral by 2050.

One of the last public hearings over Duke's plan was held virtually earlier this afternoon [Tuesday].

Critics say that Duke's proposal relies too heavily on natural gas and doesn't focus enough on renewable energy.

Jane Barnett is a retired math teacher in Moore County.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/23/2022

A proposed rock quarry in Northwest North Carolina will not forward. Yadkin County commissioners recently voted to deny a rezoning request for the project. W-F-D-D's Kerri Brown reports.

FEATURE, ME, 09/06/2022

Chemours is testing wells in the lower Cape Fear region - around Wilmington - for PFAS water contamination, but communication has been severely lacking for residents who test positive. WHQR's Kelly Kenoyer has this story.

FEATURE, ATC, 09/07/2022

Belews Creek Steam Station is a two-unit coal and natural gas plant located in Stokes County. Some community members there have been at odds with the unit's owner, Duke Energy, over how it is disposing of coal ash. WUNC Youth Reporter Claire Haile [HIGH-lee] has the story....

FEATURE, ATC, 09/12/2022

Hundreds of people are expected to return to Warren County, North Carolina this weekend to commemorate the birthplace of the Environmental Justice movement.

Race and Southern Culture Reporter Leoneda Inge says it has been 40 years since the majority Black community stood up against toxins being dumped in their backyard.

FEATURE, ATC, 09/16/2022

Shoaling is a big problem in Oregon Inlet. So much sand collects in the waterway that boats can't pass. Dare County leaders and the Congressman for the Outer Banks want a permanent fix, as Bradley George reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/23/2022

Businesses, consumers and environmental groups are criticizing Duke Energy's proposed plan to reduce carbon from energy generation in North Carolina. W-F-A-E's David Boraks has more.

FEATURE, ME, 07/19/2022

GREENSBORO/TRIAD:

The state budget includes fifteen million dollars for a headquarters in North Carolina. W-F-D-D's Paul Garber reports.

FEATURE, ME, 07/01/2022

A planned appearance in Greensboro this week by former President Donald Trump isn't happening after all. W-F-D-D's Paul Garber reports.

FEATURE, ME, 07/12/2022

Greensboro is getting a 100-thousand dollar grant from the federal government to help develop the site of a future Toyota battery plant. The city has already started building water and sewer lines that will run along the U-S 421 corridor to Randolph County.

Greensboro's economic development manager Marshall Yandle [like handle with a Y] says projects like an electric vehicle battery plant help attract other companies or home developers to the area because they know the infrastructure will be there.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/18/2022

HEALTH:

Several American Red Cross offices are open this July fourth, collecting much-needed blood donations.

Barry Porter is the regional C-E-O for the American Red Cross of Eastern North Carolina. He says donations are slow during summer months.

FEATURE, ME, 07/04/2022

The federal government is buying additional doses of monkeypox vaccine from a Danish company, which has its U-S headquarters in Morrisville. Bradley George reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/05/2022

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says there are now ten confirmed monkeypox cases in North Carolina. Sascha Corder has more.

Other cases have been reported in Wake, Mecklenburg, Davidson, and Haywood counties.

FEATURE, ME, 07/13/2022

North Carolina's emergency management services are dealing with a shortage of personnel, including people in administrative roles.

Tuition is currently waived for Paramedic and E-M-T training at the state's community colleges.

Regina Godette[god-ett] Crawford of the North Carolina Association of E-M-S Administrators says that waiver should also be extended to management.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/15/2022

A new antidote against snake venom could be the first treatment that works for most species of snake.

Doctors at Duke University and worldwide are currently testing the drug.

Charles Gerardo (jair-AR-doh) leads the clinical trial at Duke. He says the new antidote targets a group of toxins that are found in most snake venoms.

FEATURE, ME, 07/18/2022

A new health collaborative started in southeastern North Carolina is now expanding statewide. The Cape Fear Collective is a nonprofit that uses data to help improve health care. The group publishes data as different as air quality, bus stop prevalence and child abuse. But these broad data points impact people's health. Community Care of North Carolina supports the data project. The group's president, Doctor Tom Wroth, says medical care accounts for only 20 percent of health outcomes. These data points impact the other 80 percent.

FEATURE, ME, 07/25/2022

Weekly COVID-19 numbers show the virus is spreading more widely throughout North Carolina. For hospitals, that means continuing to adjust to a new normal that can accommodate regular upticks in patients - while maintaining staff morale. Jason deBruyn reports.

FEATURE, ME, 07/27/2022

It's been more than a month since the Army's deadline for National Guardsmen and Reservists to get COVID-19 vaccines. Still, about ten-percent of those troops haven't received the shots.

The Pentagon says unvaccinated troops won't get paid and can't participate in federally-funded deployments. But some states are concerned that will affect the ability of the Guard to do its job.

Desiree Diorio reports for WUNC's American Homefront Project.

FEATURE, ME, 08/08/2022

Health officials in Charlotte are getting on Grindr [grinder] and other L-G-B-T-Q dating apps to share public service announcements about monkeypox. As W-F-A-E's Nick de la Canal reports, it comes as Mecklenburg County has emerged as a hotspot.

The Wake County Health Department says it doesn't yet plan to buy ads on any L-G-B-T-Q apps, but the department is distributing monkeypox information to the L-G-B-T-Q center, the Triangle Gay Men's Chorus and others.

FEATURE, ME, 08/08/2022

Numbers also show Black men make up a disproportionately high number of the monkeypox cases. The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services reports 68-percent of those infected in this state are Black men.

Doctor Cameron Wolfe specializes in Infectious Disease at Duke University. He says there needs to be delicate but tough conversations about monkeypox.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/09/2022

President Biden signed bipartisan legislation this week that expands benefits for veterans exposed to toxic burn pits during their military service.

It will also provide compensation and healthcare to people exposed to water contamination at Camp Lejeune in eastern North Carolina. W-F-A-E's Jeanne **[Jean]** Davis has more.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/12/2022

Duke University researchers say climate change is having an impact on how North Carolinians live and work. As Bradley George reports, some of the worst effects are due to long summer heatwaves.

FEATURE, ME, 08/12/2022

WakeMed Hospitals today [Monday] announced it would apply with state regulators to build a new hospital dedicated to mental health care. If approved, WakeMed plans to build a new hospital in eastern Wake County with 150 beds.

Doctor Micah Krempasky [Krem-PAW-skee] is the Chief Medical Officer of WakeMed Behavioral Health. She says too many patients suffering mental health episodes wind up in emergency rooms, which can often exacerbate their symptoms.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/15/2022

North Carolina and nearly three dozen other states have reached a settlement with another maker of opioid painkillers. Bradley George reports.

FEATURE, ME, 08/18/2022

A federal judge effectively re-instated a ban on abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy in North Carolina. Jason deBruyn reports.

FEATURE, ME, 08/18/2022

An unvaccinated adult in New York has contracted polio, causing concerns about a possible return of the disease. As W-F-D-D's Paul Garber reports, a North Carolina pediatrician says people should not panic about the discovery.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/22/2022

Some service members and health experts say the military isn't doing enough to prevent and treat eating disorders. Troops are required to meet strict weight limits - or risk getting kicked out of the service. That can lead some to take extreme measures that can turn into eating disorders.

Desiree Diorio reports for WUNC's American Homefront Project. This report contains details that some listeners might find upsetting.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/23/2022

This summer, WUNC's youth reporters were tasked with telling stories from their own communities. Today, Jeanine Ikekhua (juh-NEEN ee-CAKE-wuh) and her friends reflect on how the physical distance from their own communities has affected their post-pandemic mental health.

FEATURE, ME, 09/06/2022

This summer, WUNC's youth reporters were tasked with telling stories from their own communities. Today, Parys Smith explores the mistreatment of Black women in the healthcare system... so she spoke with medical professionals and women in her family about the changes they would like to see.

FEATURE, ATC, 09/15/2022

Health systems and surgery centers are again competing to add services in Wake County. Jason deBruyn reports.

FEATURE, ME, 09/20/2022

This is All Things Considered. I'm Naomi Prioleau. Chemical company Chemours wants to expand existing operations at its Fayetteville Works facility. Chemours is responsible for discharging toxic chemicals known as PFAS into the Cape Fear River. Environmental advocates and local residents are expressing outrage at the proposed expansion. WUNC's environment reporter Celeste Gracia reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 09/22/2022

Last month, President Biden signed a bill making it easier for people to sue the government for illnesses from contaminated Camp Lejeune water.

It's not yet clear how the government will handle what could be one of the largest mass civil cases in history.

But as Jay Price reports for WUNC's American Homefront Project, personal injury attorneys aren't waiting.

FEATURE, ME, 09/26/2022

MILITARY:

Pentagon leaders say they will allow military families to move to new bases if they're stationed in states with laws hostile to LGBTQ people. But families who try to take advantage of the program may face barriers.

From San Antonio, Carson Frame reports for WUNC's American Homefront Project.

FEATURE, ME, 07/01/2022

The North Carolina Military Affairs Commission kicked off a campaign today [Tuesday] to build awareness about the military's Impact on the state.

Jay Price reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/12/2022

[WESUN FEATURE FOR JULY 17, 2022]

The death of a Navy SEAL candidate in February is raising questions about the safety of basic training.

Kyle Mullen died of pneumonia just after so-called "Hell Week."

His family recently released an autopsy that concluded he received little medical care, even though he was seriously ill.

Steve Walsh reports from San Diego for WUNC's American Homefront Project.

FEATURE, ME, 07/18/2022

The military faces the toughest recruiting drought since the start of the all-volunteer force nearly 50 years ago. The Army is hit hardest, even in North Carolina, home to Fort Bragg.

Jay Price reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/29/2022

[WESUN FEATURE FOR AUGUST 28, 2022]

The U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan one year ago led tens of thousands of people to flee the country. Many of those refugees are now navigating life in America. But for some who are here on humanitarian parole, the resettlement process has been rocky.

Carson Frame reports for WUNC's American Homefront Project.

FEATURE, ME, 08/25/2022

[WESUN FEATURE FOR SEPT. 11, 2022]

Some service members and health experts say the military isn't doing enough to prevent and treat eating disorders. Troops are required to meet strict weight limits - or risk getting kicked

out of the service. That can lead some to take extreme measures that can turn into eating disorders.

Desiree Diorio [DEE oreo] reports for WUNC's American Homefront Project. This report contains details that some listeners might find upsetting.

FEATURE, ATC, 09/09/2022

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT:

Several North Carolina environmental groups are condemning a ruling from the U-S Supreme Court issued Thursday. Celeste Gracia reports.

The decision limits the ability of the Environmental Protection Agency to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from power plants.

FEATURE, ME, 07/01/2022

Raleigh's city council will meet today [Tuesday] to take a final vote on the city's dangerous animal ordinance, following last year's zebra cobra escape. Sascha Cordner reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/05/2022

The Garner Town Council has unanimously approved Wake County's non-discrimination ordinance.

It bans discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, natural hair, and other factors not covered by federal or state law.

Town manager Rodney Dickerson spoke to the council before last night's vote.

FEATURE, ME, 07/06/2022

Early, one-stop voting and same-day registration starts today [THURSDAY] in a number of North Carolina cities and towns that postponed municipal elections due to delayed 2020 census data. Rusty Jacobs reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/07/2022

In a party-line 3-2 vote today [THURSDAY], the State Board of Elections' Democratic majority rejected a request by Republicans to increase scrutiny of absentee ballot signatures. Rusty Jacobs reports.

FEATURE, ME, 07/14/2022

A federal court might soon consider re-instating a ban on abortions after 20 weeks in North Carolina. Jason deBruyn reports.

FEATURE, ME, 07/15/2022

There is now less than a week left of early voting for a number of local elections, ahead of Election Day next week Tuesday [July 26]. Sascha Cordner reports.

FEATURE, ME, 07/18/2022

Holly Springs residents rallied before a town council meeting yesterday [Tue], urging approval of a non-discrimination ordinance.

Holly Springs leaders say the town welcomes everyone, and the ordinance would burden businesses.

Resident Nakita Noel [na-kee-tah no-ell] says council members are ignoring those who would benefit.

FEATURE, ME, 07/20/2022

The state board of community colleges has approved a new interim president for the North Carolina Community College System. Liz Schlemmer reports.

FEATURE, ME, 07/21/2022

Tomorrow [Tuesday] is Election Day for a number of local elections in North Carolina. Sascha Cordner has more on some of the races to watch.

FEATURE, ME, 07/25/2022

Bradley George has this roundup of other election results. In Greensboro, incumbent Mayor Nancy Vaughn declared victory. But challenger Justin Outling says he will wait until every vote is counted before conceding.

FEATURE, ME, 07/27/2022

State health officials recently expanded the list of people who are eligible to get the free monkeypox vaccine.

Anyone who has had close contact in the past two weeks with someone who's been diagnosed with monkeypox can get vaccinated.

Alonza [uh-lawn-zuh. lon like long] Pamplin is the Wake County Communicable Disease Supervisor.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/28/2022

Governor Roy Cooper is encouraging North Carolinians to participate in the Governor's annual School Supply Drive, which kicked off today [Monday].

In a video, he said these supplies will go toward helping public school students and teachers across the state.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/01/2022

A statewide ban on the sale and import of giant tegu (TAY-goo) lizards goes into effect today [8/1] - after only a handful of sightings statewide. Sophia Friesen (FREEZ-in) has more. The black and white lizards are native to South America and can grow up to four feet long.

FEATURE, ME, 08/01/2022

Challenger Justin Outling has conceded to incumbent Nancy Vaughan in the race for Greensboro mayor. W-F-D-D's Paul Garber reports.

Outling, a city councilman in District 3, had been trying to unseat Vaughan, who has been mayor since 2013.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/02/2022

The State Board of Elections has officially recognized the North Carolina Green Party, possibly paving the way for the far-left group to get its candidate into this year's U-S Senate race. But the Greens face more legal hurdles. Rusty Jacobs reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/02/2022

Wake county public school officials say a large number of student lunch accounts have nearly 296-thousand dollars in unclaimed funds. This impacts students who have either graduated or moved from the district. Mary-Catherine Talton [TOWL-ton] with Child Nutrition Services of Wake County says there's a process in place for families or recent graduates to safely request the funds.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/11/2022

A public hearing before the State Board of Elections today [THURSDAY] could tighten rules for partisan observers at polling sites in North Carolina. Rusty Jacobs reports.

FEATURE, ME, 08/11/2022

The state Board of Elections is set to decide on new rules for poll observers after reports that some interfered with voting during May's primaries. Some local elections directors said observers - who are appointed by local political parties - were

improperly interacting with voters. A Davidson County official reported observers who unlawfully demanded to watch people vote or look at poll workers' laptops.

In a public hearing yesterday [Thursday], Karen Raines - who works for a conservative-backed group that trains poll observers - said the changes would interfere with their jobs.

FEATURE, ME, 08/12/2022

Voting engagement advocates will be on college campuses in the coming days as students return to North Carolina schools for the fall semester. Rusty Jacobs reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/15/2022

As more states look to put abortion bans in place, some health experts say their patients are already afraid of being accused of terminating their pregnancies due to certain medications they're taking. That includes drugs used to treat rheumatoid arthritis. Rheumatologist Megan Clowse [Close] with Duke Health says methotrexate [meth-oh-trex-ate] is inexpensive and nearly unavoidable for people to take.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/16/2022

E-P-A Administrator Michael Regan [REE-gan] says he expects the newly passed Inflation Reduction Act to boost North Carolina's investments in clean energy. The 750-billion dollar spending bill includes tax credits that cover 30 percent of the cost to install home solar and battery storage systems. And it expands the 75-hundred dollar tax credit for new electric vehicles.

In a virtual meeting with reporters today [Wednesday], Regan - who was formerly North Carolina's environment secretary - said the state should use those incentives.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/17/2022

Newly naturalized U-S citizens could play an important role in swing states during the midterm elections. A new study found North Carolina among the top states where this voter bloc could have a political impact. W-F-A-E's Kayla Young has more.

FEATURE, ME, 08/19/2022

Local elections officials in one northeastern county will hear a challenge tomorrow [Tuesday] over whether a candidate meets her residency requirement. Jeff Tiberii reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/22/2022

State Senate leader Phil Berger says he does not support a total ban on abortion. The powerful Republican spoke to reporters today [Tuesday] at the General Assembly and was asked about elective abortion procedures and changes that the legislature could make next year. The head of the Senate said he supports exceptions for rape, incest and fetal viability.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/23/2022

North Carolina boards of elections are being inundated with public records requests that could take weeks to fulfill. As W-F-D-D's April Laissle [LEZ-lee] reports, officials suspect these could be part of a coordinated effort to derail elections operations ahead of the midterms.

FEATURE, ME, 08/23/2022

A federal rule change could have a big impact on North Carolina Poultry farmers. As Bradley George reports, the Biden Administration is looking to update a century-old federal law.

FEATURE, ATC, 09/10/2022

As states across the country pass abortion bans, President Biden and some other Democrats want to ease federal restrictions on the procedure. Federal provisions prevent taxpayer funds from being used for abortions and also restrict abortion access at military hospitals.

Carson Frame reports for WUNC's American Homefront Project.

FEATURE, ME, 09/12/2022

This is Morning Edition. Hundreds of families are still displaced from their homes years after Hurricanes Matthew and Florence. State lawmakers say a program that's supposed to help these families rebuild their homes is not meeting expectations. Celeste Gracia reports.

FEATURE, ME, 09/15/2022

[WESUN FEATURE FOR SEPT. 18, 2022]

As states across the country pass abortion bans, President Biden and some other Democrats want to ease federal restrictions on the procedure. Federal provisions prevent taxpayer funds from being used for abortions and also restrict abortion access at military hospitals.

Carson Frame reports for WUNC's American Homefront Project.

FEATURE, ATC, 09/16/2022

In recent election cycles, results of political polls have been deeply flawed. Ahead of the 2022 midterm, pollsters have adjusted some of their methodology... Yet questions linger. On the latest WUNC Politics Podcast, host Jeff Tiberii explores the uncertainty of polls.

FEATURE, ATC, 09/19/2022

Absentee-by-mail ballots in North Carolina are already being returned for the 2022 midterm elections. But with just seven weeks to go before Election Day on November 8th, state and local elections administrators must contend with an onslaught of records requests from a race that was certified almost two years ago. Rusty Jacobs reports.

FEATURE, ME, 09/21/2022

Elections officials, attorneys and cyber-security experts are touring the state to address questions about North Carolina's voting system. Rusty Jacobs filed this report following a virtual town hall meeting along the Trusted Elections Tour.

FEATURE, ME, 09/22/2022

With less than a month until early voting starts, the major parties are pouring money into battleground legislative districts. Jeff Tiberii reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 09/26/2022

RACE/DIVERSITY:

North Carolina's Green Party is suing to get on the state's 2022 ballot, which includes this year's U-S Senate race. Rusty Jacobs has more.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/15/2022

A group of civil rights activists are in Raleigh to continue their search for Carolyn Bryant Donham (don-hum). She is the white woman who many say played a role in the lynching of Emmett Till decades ago.

Leoneda Inge reports.

FEATURE, ME, 07/29/2022

UNC-Chapel Hill has announced it will create a permanent memorial to James Cates. He was a young Black man killed on campus in 1970 in an act of racial violence. Liz Schlemmer reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/12/2022

For nearly 100 years, a monument to Confederate veterans stood in a small town north of Rocky Mount called Enfield. Earlier this month, the town commission voted to remove it, and the mayor of Enfield volunteered to do it himself. He used a hammer and a bulldozer, and livestreamed it

The event attracted attention from well beyond Enfield... and made the mayor the subject of a state investigation and the target of racist hate mail. But as Will Michaels reports, it also started a new chapter in his life as a community organizer and activist.

FEATURE, ME, 09/01/2022

For this summer's Youth Reporting Institute, Avery Patterson explored how housing practices affect the racial makeup of Durham neighborhoods today-and how that impacts her sense of belonging as a Black girl living in a predominantly white neighborhood.

FEATURE, ME, 09/13/2022

For this summer's Youth Reporting Institute, reporter Nassibah Bedreddine [Nuh-SEE-bah BED-ruh-deen] took a look at how intolerance has facilitated not only cultural assimilation but cultural loss. She dug into her Algerian family's history and documented how they are working to preserve their culture.

FEATURE, ATC, 09/14/2022

SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY:

SPORTS:

The Greensboro Coliseum could be renamed to honor the Atlantic Coast Conference while the league ponders moving its headquarters out of the city.

The state budget includes fifteen million dollars for a headquarters in North Carolina. W-F-D-D's Paul Garber reports.

FEATURE, ME, 07/01/2022

Pinehurst will once again be home to the World Golf Hall of Fame. Governor Roy Cooper and the U-S Golf Association announced the move today [Wednesday], as Bradley George reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 07/20/2022

If you follow college football in the south, you may notice schedules are looking a lot more diverse. There is a new emphasis on historically Black college football, recruiting and big-time opponents... like last week, when U-N-C Chapel Hill played Florida A-and-M University.

Race and Southern Culture Reporter Leoneda Inge has the story.

FEATURE, ATC, 09/02/2022

TRANSPORTATION:

Triple-A Carolinas estimates one point four million North Carolinians will travel 50 miles or more over the July fourth weekend.

The auto club's Tiffany Wright says most people will drive to their destination, even as gas prices are above four dollars per gallon.

FEATURE, ME, 07/01/2022

Roads will be busy this evening as the July 4th holiday winds down.

Tiffany Wright of Triple-A Carolinas says be patient.

FEATURE, ME, 07/04/2022

The speed limit has been lowered at a local bridge in Dare County to protect resting purple martin birds.

It's due to a 15-year partnership between the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the Coastal Carolina Purple Martin Society to reduce bird deaths at the Umstead bridge. Gail Hutchison with the Purple Martin Society says their partnership started, after she wrote a letter to her friend who was an editor at a local newspaper.

FEATURE, ME, 07/29/2022

Airports in Eastern North Carolina are getting help from the federal government to attract more passenger flights. Bradley George reports.

Last week, the U-S Department of Transportation awarded nearly one point four million dollars to airports in New Bern and

Wilmington to help them attract service to Philadelphia and South Florida.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/08/2022

The state Department of Transportation will get public input on its proposal to build new roads near a future electric vehicle plant in Chatham County. The Vietnamese car manufacturer Vin-Fast announced earlier this year it would build a facility in Moncure, about 25 miles southwest of Raleigh. Vin-Fast expects to produce 200-thousand electric cars a year by 20-27. The D-O-T wants to build an interchange at Highway 1 and New Elam [EE-lum] Church Road. That road would also be widened and lead directly to the new facility.

D-O-T spokesman Harris Kay says the plans are designed to accommodate an influx of new workers.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/15/2022

The U.S. Department of Transportation is detailing some green initiatives within a sweeping infrastructure bill that contains millions of dollars for North Carolina. Jeff Tiberii reports.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/16/2022

The transportation director for Wake County Public Schools says the district has just enough bus drivers.

Wake County has cut 76 bus routes due to a driver shortage.

On top of that, Bob Snidemiller says five percent of drivers call out sick on any given day.

FEATURE, ME, 08/18/2022

Dare County leaders support a proposal to build a permanent jetty in Oregon Inlet.

They say it would prevent shoaling, which is usually caused by sand that collects in the waterway.

That makes the water become too shallow, making it impossible for boats to navigate.

Republican congressman Greg Murphy has filed a bill to request federal money for a feasibility study.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/22/2022

WEATHER:**OTHER:**

Bill Martin is a retired contractor and building inspector from Forsyth County. He's now with the nonprofit Baptists on Mission - and for the past year he's been working in Haywood County to help repair storm damaged homes.

FEATURE, ATC, 08/19/2022

Duke Energy has asked state regulators to approve a test that would allow the utility to draw energy from electric vehicle batteries. The energy would load onto the power grid at times of peak demand. WFAE's David Boraks has this report.

FEATURE, ATC, 09/23/2022