

# **WITN-TV**

# **Washington, NC**

## **QUARTERLY LISTING OF COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS**

July 1, 2016 – September 30, 2016

## Community Action

*Program: WITN News at Sunrise*

*Length: 2:01*

*Date: July 7, 2016*

*Time: 6:24am*

WITN News at Sunrise meteorologist Jim Howard hosted a live interview with former ECU and New England Patriot running back Tony Collins talking about the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Right Choice Golf Classic to benefit the Tony Collins Foundation. The Right Choice program empowers disadvantaged youth to strive and reach their full potential in life through mentoring and counseling.

*Program: WITN News at Sunrise*

*Length: 1:54*

*Date: July 12, 2016*

*Time: 6:25am*

WITN News at Sunrise meteorologist Jim Howard conducted a live interview with Shondell Jones, a committee member for the Differently Disable Fun Fair scheduled at the Koinonia Church Center in Greenville. Shondell explained that the event was designed for community members dealing with severe and profound physical or mental disabilities.

*Program: WITN News at 5:30pm*

*Length: 1:49*

*Date: August 3, 2016*

*Time: 5:34pm*

WITN News reporter McKenzie Roberts reported from Greene County on a program to supply bottled water to local volunteer fire departments. Todd Whaley with the Snow Hill Rural Fire Department and Jeremy Anderson the Shine Fire and EMS Chief explained that the volunteer firefighters often deal with dehydration while providing services and the program to supply the bottled water was critical to maintaining their level of service and protection.

## Crime & Public Safety

*Program: WITN News at 5:00pm*

*Length: 2:04*

*Date: July 13, 2016*

*Time: 5:11pm*

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WITN News anchor/reporter Lindsay Oliver spoke with Lisa Woolard of the Beaufort-Pott Partnership for Children about heat safety in cars for children. Recent incidents of children dying from heat in cars prompted Lisa to discuss how to use special care with infants in cars during hot summer months. Lisa also mentioned the importance of protecting infants from UV rays and pointed out that a 93 degree outside temperature translates into 125 degree interior temperatures after only 20 minutes.

*Program: WITN News Early Sunrise*

*Length: 1:48*

*Date: July 28, 2016*

*Time: 5:55am*

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WITN News at Sunrise anchor Heather King spoke with representatives of the National Night Out event sponsored by the city of Washington. Kimberly Grimes, Crime Prevention and Outreach Manager with the Washington Police Department told viewers about the activities planned for the evening to bring communities members together. They also would be supplying started school supply bags to children in the community.

*Program: WITN News at 6:00pm*

*Length: 1:51*

*Date: August 1, 2016*

*Time: 6:03pm*

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WITN News anchor Stacia Strong reported on a program being organized by the New Bern Police Department to avoid dangerous police encounters. Bill Zerby of the New Bern Police Department reviewed suggestions for citizens on safe behavior during police encounters and traffic stops. Dr. Jeff Murphy and Brian Quarters, local residents reflected on how this advice could help ease tensions and avoid dangerous situations during police stops.

## Education

*Program: WITN News at 5:30pm*

*Length: 1:46*

*Date: August 2, 2016*

*Time: 5:33pm*

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WITN News reporter Stacia Strong provided a report on a program developed by the Pamlico County Sheriff to assist the county schools in gathering school supplies. Sheriff Chris Davis explained the department's recruitment drive to gather materials. Henry Rice, Pamlico County Schools Student Services Coordinator spoke about the need to assist over 1600 students in this rural, Tier III County.

*Program: WITN News at Sunrise*

*Length: 2:12*

*Date: August 18, 2016*

*Time: 6:24am*

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WITN News at Sunrise anchor Heather King interviewed LaVette Ford, principal at Lakefront Elementary Schools about a program at the school in which staff reaches out to students and parents prior to the start of the school year. Ms. Ford explained that the staff will go out to various housing projects to meet and greet parents and students to establish contacts for the purpose of providing support and resources to students.

*Program: WITN News at 6:00pm*

*Length: 1:55*

*Date: August 24, 2016*

*Time: 6:02pm*

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WITN News reporter CB Cotton reported on a survey published by Wallet Hub that ranked Pamlico Community College as #3 in providing value in college level education. CB interviewed PCC President Jim Ross who talked about the college's nine to one faculty to student ration. Whitney Griffin, a student at the college discussed how she felt she received the kind of individual interaction that allowed her to succeed in her classes.

## Environment & Weather

*Program: WITN News at 6pm*

*Length: 1:44*

*Date: July 11, 2016*

*Time: 6:04pm*

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WITN News reporter Stacia Strong reported from the coast on efforts by environmental groups to stop seismic blasting off the coast of Carteret County. Michael Murdoch from the Sierra Club Croatan Chapter and Anna Windle with Environment NC led protests seeking to prevent the testing. They explained that the process uses loud sound waves that can be harmful to marine life.

*Program: WITN 7 News at 5:30pm*

*Length: 1:28*

*Date: August 19 2016*

*Time: 5:38pm*

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WITN News anchor Lynnette Taylor reported on instances of increased algae blooms in the Neuse and Pamlico rivers. Hans Pearl from the UNC Institute of Marine Sciences explained that while algae is important to the ecosystem, the exceptionally warm weather has caused the algae blooms to increase above normal thus choking off nutrients and oxygen to fish in the rivers.

*Program: WITN News at 11:00pm*

*Length: 1:51*

*Date: September 28, 2016*

*Time: 11:02pm*

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WITN News reporter McKenzie Roberts provided a follow-up report on the effects of the massive flooding in Windsor and Bertie County. Al Jarrel, a flood victim along with Gail Jernigan of the NC Baptist Men's Volunteers discussed clean-up efforts underway to remove drywall, insulation and carpeting that have been destroyed by the flood waters. They explained that they were facing difficulties finding facilities to dispose of these materials.

## Health

*Program: WITN News at Sunrise*

*Length: 2:12*

*Date: August 11, 2016*

*Time: 6:24am*

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WITN News at Sunrise anchor Heather King hosted a “Growing Up Fit” segment with Robin Tant, Nutrition Program Director for Pitt County Health along with Rhonda Argenbright from Vidant Health and Victoria Bonz with Pitt County Infant Mortality Prevention. They discussed the health benefits of breast feeding infants and offered encouragement, tips and resources for more information during World Breastfeeding month.

*Program: WITN News at 6pm*

*Length: 1:52*

*Date: September 19, 2016*

*Time: 6:04pm*

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WITN News reporter CB Cotton reported from Morehead City on a program developed by the Carteret County Health Department to assess emergency medical transport needs. Kelly Urban, EMS Coordinator explained that often times patients end up being transported by emergency vehicles for non-emergency transport situations. The county has created a program whereby EMS workers offer taxi vouchers for patients that might later need transport to the hospital for non-emergency treatments.

*Program: WITN News at 6pm*

*Length: 1:43*

*Date: September 27, 2016*

*Time 6:03pm*

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WITN News reporter CB Cotton provided a report on the completion of renovations at the Naval Hospital on board Camp Lejeune. Calvin Leatherwood, manager along with Dr. David Barrow and anesthesiologist and Captain Jim Hancock, Commanding Officer of the facility showed and explained the upgrades made to the operating rooms following the first upgrades to the facilities since 1983. Captain Hancock explained how this would make the care much more efficient and effective.

WITN ISSUE/PROGRAMS LIST  
DATE: 7/01/16 - 9/30/16

## Local Economy

*Program: WITN News at 6:00pm*

*Length: 1:55*

*Date: July 20, 2016*

*Time: 6:02pm*

WITN News anchor/reporter provided a report about plans for a new shopping center in New Bern. The 325,000 square foot shopping center is projected to add several new jobs, provide construction jobs and increase the area tax base according to Jeff Ruggieri, Craven County Development Services Director.

*Program: WITN News at Sunrise*

*Length: 2:10*

*Date: July 25, 2016*

*Time: 6:24am*

WITN News at Sunrise anchor Heather King conducted a live interview with Dr. Lando Mason, the Executive Director of the Economic Improvement Counsel for Beaufort/Martin counties. Dr. Landon told viewers about a job fair being held to help staff the Beaufort-Martin-Pitt Head Start program based in Williamston. The new agency running the program anticipates hiring close to 100 employees to provide services to 500+ children and families.

*Program: WITN News at 11:00pm*

*Length: 1:32*

*Date: September 29, 2016*

*Time: 11:06pm*

WITN News reporter CB Cotton covered a visit by Governor Pat McCrory to Duplin County to discuss the economics of agriculture in the state. Steve Rhodes, a Duplin County farmer stated the profitability is one of the chief concerns in this business while the governor spoke about the challenges faced by the industry with active farmers continuing to age and facing increasing regulations.

WITN ISSUE/PROGRAMS LIST  
DATE: 7/01/16 - 9/30/16

## Substance Abuse & Education

*Program: WITN News at 11pm*  
*Date: August 7, 2016*

*Length: 1:27*  
*Time: 11:01pm*

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WITN News anchor/reporter Anna Phillips provided a report about a program being offered by East Carolina University for students designed to teach “adult” behaviors. Virginia Hardy, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs said the class was being developed by school counselors to teach good responsible behaviors, especially in relation to substance abuse and drinking. Arran Wright, a senior and Tristen Schuler an incoming freshman both said they thought the course could provide positive benefits to the student body.

*Program: WITN News at 6:00pm*

*Length: 1:49*

*Date: August 30, 2016*

*Time: 6:02pm*

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WITN News reporter McKenzie Roberts provided a live report about holiday weekend plans for a “Booze It, Lose It” campaign in the city of Greenville. Doug Coley with the North Carolina Highway Patrol said that 5 different agencies would team up to man sobriety checkpoints in the city. Trooper Coley said there had been 85 arrests for DWI in the past week alone with return of students for the new school year leading into this end-of-summer holiday.

*Program: WITN News at Sunrise - Sunday*

*Length: 1:51*

*Date: September 25, 2016*

*Time: 8:05am*

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WITN News anchor/reporter Cassandra Bell reported on a Recovery Fest held at the Pitt County Ag Center. Several local agencies participated in the event and Matt Lambeth with PORT Human Services explained that the gathering allowed recovering addicts and their families to gather in a casual atmosphere to celebrate their successes. The event was sponsored by the Pitt County Coalition on Substance Abuse and included assistance from the Pitt County Sheriff’s Department.